Annual Report
of the
Commissioner of Indian Affairs
for
1845.

No. 10.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, November 24, 1845.

SIR: Since the last annual report from this office, the emigration of Indians to the west of the Mississippi has been much greater than for several years past. This is chiefly owing to the removal of Choctaws from the State of Mississippi to the territory set apart for them west of the Arkansas. Under the contract entered into with Messrs. Anderson, Forrester, Cobb, and Pickens, for the emigration and subsistence of these Indians, operations were commenced about the 1st of January last, and a party of eleven hundred and eighty-two have removed, and are now under subsistence, at a cost to the government of $26 71 for removal per capita, and $20 for subsistence of every Indian twelve months after his arrival west. From the latest information received at this office another large party is prepared to start, and will probably set out in the course of the present month; as that portion of the scrip to which they are entitled has been sent to Major Wm. Armstrong, the actings uperintendent of Indian affairs for the western territory, who has been charged with the superintendence of their emigration. This office has rendered all possible aid to effect the removal of these people to their new homes, and thereby render their condition more happy and agreeable to themselves than it has been. It is made obligatory on these people that they must remove, or signify their intention so to do, before any portion of the scrip due them can be issued; and it is confidently expected that, before another year has gone around, the Choctaws still remaining east will have joined their brethren in the western territory, where, once again united, they will, under the protecting and fostering care of the government, become an enlightened and contented people.

The few remaining Creeks in Alabama and Georgia, amounting in number to about one hundred and sixty, including slaves, are prepared to remove. The latest intelligence received from them represents that they are only awaiting a rise in the waters to emigrate. Instructions have been given to the acting superintendent west to contract for their subsistence for one year after their arrival in the Creek country. The contract for their removal was entered into in August last, at a cost of $47 25 per capita.

The New York Indians, or rather a portion of them, have repeatedly applied to the department for the proper steps to be taken for their emigration. It was not deemed expedient to enter into any arrangements for this purpose until the department was assured that a sufficient number to justify the expenditure incident to the appointment of an agent was prepared to remove. A delegation of these people having a short time since visited Washington, and reiterated their desire to go west, they were informed that their wishes should be gratified in case two hundred and fifty would be prepared to emigrate. An agent was appointed to superintend their emigra-

tion, and the department having been advised that the requisite number were ready, the necessary funds have been placed in his hands, to conduct them to their new homes, for which they were expected to leave about the 20th instant.

Within the last year, according to the muster-rolls received at this office, about one hundred Chickasaws have removed to the west of the Mississippi, and it is believed that very few of these people are now east of that river.

By the treaty entered into with the Miamies on the 28th November, 1840, they obligated themselves to remove at the end of five years from that time. A contract was, therefore, entered into for their removal, and it was expected that they would have set out last spring, the agent having been instructed to leave nothing undone to effect the desired result. Contrary to the anticipations of the department, these people yet remain in Indiana; but it is to be hoped that they will be emigrated in the course of the ensuing year.

The Sacs and Foxes, according to the stipulations of the treaty entered into with them on the 11th October, 1842, to remove to their new homes, in a country to be set apart for them, within three years from the date thereof, have commenced their emigration. This was much to be desired, as the incursions upon them by the whites rendered a change of location highly necessary, calculated as it must be to render their situation more advantageous to themselves. Faithful to their obligations, these people, reputed brave and noble, and fully understanding the benefits which must naturally follow such a course, have taken up their march for the country assigned them for their future homes; two tracts having been offered them, to choose that one which, on examination, they may think best suited to their wants. Some difficulty occurred in locating these people, as they expressed a desire to have their homes on the Kanzas; but this wish could not be complied with, in consequence of the Kanzas country being owned by the people of that name. They made application, however, to be allowed to winter on the Kanzas river, but were refused permission to do so by my predecessor, and there the matter rests. About twenty-two hundred of them have removed at different times, according to the accounts received from Captain John Beach, the agent in charge; Powsheik, and his band of Foxes, being the last who were reported to be encamped on the banks of the Racoon river, and who were expected to cross the Missouri by the 11th of October. For the prompt manner in which these people have fulfilled their treaty stipulations, and the fidelity which they have shown in meeting their engagements, they are entitled to the highest regard and commendation of the government.

A tripartite treaty was concluded, on the 4th of January last, between the United States, the Creeks, and the Seminoles. By the stipulations therein entered into, the Seminoles have been permanently located among the Creeks, and the bands of the former who had settled without authority on tracts belonging to other tribes have been united. This arrangement is highly gratifying; and it is to be hoped that these Indians, who have given the government at different times so much trouble, will now become settled, and, following the example of the tribes by whom they are surrounded, may become a contented and happy people.

The accompanying statement (marked 1) exhibits the number of the various tribes of Indians east and west of the Mississippi river, whether native of or emigrant to the country west; those emigrated since the last annual report, as well as those remaining east; also, that portion under

subsistence, and the cost of the same. It is proper, however, to remark that, respecting those tribes with whom there are no agents of the government, the population is estimated by conjecture and such data as is furnished by traders and others who have travelled among them. More accuracy is given to the numbers of those tribes immediately under the care of the Indian agents and sub-agents, by the several census and muster rolls returned to the department.

I am sorry to inform you that, notwithstanding the efforts which have been made to treat with the Winnebagoes on fair and liberal terms for the sale of the territory held by them within the limits of what is usually called the Neutral Ground, all attempts at negotiation have failed. It was hoped that a treaty might be made with these Indians during the past season, and instructions were accordingly given to his Excellency Governor Dodge, of Wisconsin, to effect this object. He was, however, unsuccessful. I would respectfully refer you to his report (2) on this subject for all the circumstances connected with this effort, as well as the recommendations made by him in order to insure success in any future attempt that may be made in this matter. Coming as these do from one so intimately acquainted with the Indian character, and so worthy of confidence, as Governor Dodge, they deserve the most respectful consideration.

Negotiations are at present pending with the Chippewas, Ottowas, and Pottawatomies of the Council Bluffs sub agency, with a view to provide for their removal from their present location, and their establishment in a district of country where they will be free from the incursions of the whites upon them.

Governor Dodge has been instructed to treat with the Oneidas of Green bay for the purchase of their lands in that section of Wisconsin, and their removal to the southwest of the Missouri river. Nothing has yet been heard from him on the subject, but hopes are entertained that he will be successful.

Herewith you will find fiscal tables (3) showing—

1. The amount drawn out of the treasury between the 30th June, 1844, and 30th of June, 1845, inclusive, on account of appropriations for the half calendar year ending the 30th of June, 1843, and the balance remaining undrawn;

2. The amount drawn between the 30th of June, 1844, and the 30th of June, 1845, inclusive, on account of appropriations under the act of the 3d of March, 1843, for other purposes than the foregoing, and the balance remaining undrawn;

3. The amount drawn between the 30th of June, 1844, and the 30th of June, 1845, inclusive, on account of the appropriations for the service of the Indian department for the fiscal year commencing 1st of July, 1843, and ending 30th of June, 1844, and the balance remaining undrawn;

4. The amount appropriated for the service of the Indian department for the fiscal year commencing July 1st, 1844, and ending June 30th, 1845, inclusive, and the balance remaining undrawn.

There is likewise annexed an exhibit of the amount in stocks and held in trust for various Indian tribes, as well as of the sums on which Congress appropriates the interest annually, as called for by certain treaties, instead of investing the same in stocks. (4.)

The annuities and other payments for the year, to meet treaty stipula-

tions, have been promptly remitted, and have either been paid or are in process of payment to those entitled to receive them.

The records of this office show that a large number of claims connected with reservations and grants of land to individual Indians have been disposed of during the past year. The greater portion of them were those of Choctaw Indians, under the 14th article of the treaty with that tribe, of September, 1830, which have been the subject of frequent action by Congress since 1836.

The commissioners appointed under the "act to provide for the satisfaction of claims arising under the fourteenth and nineteenth articles of the treaty of Dancing Rabbit creek, concluded in September, 1830," approved 23d August, 1842, made a final report of their proceedings to the President on the 16th of June last. The claims reported on by them, so far as the decisions of the commissioners were favorable to the claimants, received your concurrence, and have been acted on by this office, with a view of placing in the possession of the various Indian claimants the evidence of the admission and settlement of their claims, and that no further delay should operate to prevent the removal of the claimants and their families from the State of Mississippi to the country occupied by their kindred west of the State of Arkansas.

According to the provisions of the act passed at the last session of Congress, confirming the valuations made by Messrs. Caldwell, Waggoner, and Justice, of the improvements on the lands in Ohio ceded by the Wyandots under the treaty of the 17th of August, 1842, funds were placed, during the past season, in the hands of the agents of the department for payment to the claimants. It was a condition precedent to the liquidation of the various amounts, that the sums thus paid were to be "in full satisfaction of all claims and demands," under the 5th article of that treaty. This, I am informed, has met with much opposition; the agent, on the 13th October last, reporting that but few had accepted the terms, embracing but about one-third of the sum to be paid over; the balance refusing to receive the amount of their valuations.

The alleged difficulties among the Cherokees, I regret to state, remain still unsettled. A delegation of the party holding the authority of the nation, at the head of which is Mr. John Ross, the principal chief, has been in Washington for some time past. Several of the delegation of the old settlers' party have also been here, and delegates from the treaty party it is understood may shortly be expected. It is much to be desired, and I am in hopes, that during the winter the questions in which the difficulties among these people have their origin may in some manner be definitively settled.

It is scarcely necessary to enter into an analysis of the various reports from the superintendents, agents, and sub-agents of Indian affairs. They will be found appended to this report, numbered from 5 to 30. Upon referring to them, however, it will be seen that with a very few unimportant exceptions, the condition of the various Indian tribes under their charge has been peaceable and well disposed, and that but little change has taken place since the last annual report from this office. A disposition to improve their condition by adopting the habits and conforming to the pursuits of the white man continues to manifest itself to a very considerable and gratifying extent. The use of ardent spirits among a few of the tribes has been somewhat increased, while with most of them it has greatly

diminished. This increase arises from the inadequacy of the existing laws to suppress the whiskey trade. It may with proper exertions be kept out of the Indian country, where the United States has exclusive jurisdiction; but abandoned white men living within the limits of the States and organized Territories bordering on the Indian country continue this nefarious traffic, and afford the Indians ample opportunities of obtaining this liquid poison, so injurious to their peace and destructive of their race. The laws of the United States cannot reach such cases, and nothing but restrictive laws passed by the States themselves, and rigidly enforced, can ever abate or remedy the evil. These are called for by almost every report received from the agents of the government, and it is to be hoped that some measures may be taken to direct the attention of the local legislatures to this important subject.

The cause of education, destined, as it ever must be, to improve not only the mental but also the moral condition of the human race, is gradually extending its influence among the Indian tribes. Its course is an onward one, and to it we must chiefly look in future to reform the character and ameliorate the condition of the red man. Comparatively few reports have been received from the superintendents of schools in the Indian country. From the information contained in these, however, we may reasonably anticipate that before many years shall have elapsed some knowledge of letters, of agriculture, and of the mechanic arts will be widely diffused among the Indians, and that they will then see the necessity of urging apon all their people a course of life which will tend to promote their immediate happiness and permanent welfare.

It has been the subject of remark, in former reports of this office, that the Choctaws have earned for themselves an enviable reputation by their attachment to the cause of education, and the consequent improvement that has taken place in the condition of their people. I am happy to state that they still continue highly sensible of the benefits which they are deriving from the schools which they have established in their nation, and the example thus set by them is destined to exert an important influence on all the neighboring tribes. They will see the advantages resulting from the efforts made by these people, and strive to follow in their course.

The report of Governor Butler, late agent for the Cherokees, furnishes the most flattering account of the schools among that people. They are principally what are called "neighborhood schools," and are represented to be numerous and in a flourishing condition. Last year they numbered twenty-eight; all supported out of their own funds, reserved by treaty and appropriated for that purpose. The reports from which, so far as they have come to hand, furnish abundant evidence of increase and improvement.

A spirit of emulation, caused by the example of their neighbors, the Choctaws and Cherokees, seems to have reached and now pervades the Creeks. They have already several schools among them, conducted on an extensive scale, in which are taught the primary and more useful branches of learning, and one of which is on the manual labor principle. These people have recently requested the application of all their school funds to the establishment of two additional manual labor schools, and arrangements are in progress for their erection, as desired, under the superintendence of the Presbyterian Board of Missions. It is expected that one of them will be commenced next spring, and be in full operation by the autumn.

The Chickasaws have likewise asked for the establishment of a manual labor school among them, and requested that a portion of their school money may be applied to that object. To this they propose to add out of their other funds such additional sum as may be sufficient to carry on the same. The approval of the department has been given to this arrangement, and the buildings will be immediately commenced.

Great praise is due to Major Wm. Armstrong, the able and efficient acting superintendent of Indian affairs for the western territory, whose whole energies seem to be devoted to the discharge of his arduous duties and the improvement and advancement of the tribes under his charge in civilization, the knowledge of letters, agriculture, and the mechanic arts. To him is due the credit, in an eminent degree, of originating and carrying out the great scheme of education upon the extensive scale on which it has been introduced among all within his superintendency.

The Fort Leavenworth manual labor school, under the charge and direction of the Methodist Episcopal Society, has lost nothing of its former interest and usefulness, though there seems to be a small decrease in the number of its scholars since last year. Its condition is represented by the superintendent as highly flattering; attended, as it still is, by 137 scholars —91 males and 46 females.

The Friends' manual labor school, in the same agency, has 40 scholars, (an equal number of either sex,) and is likewise represented to be prosperous and flourishing.

The Choctaw academy, in Kentucky, established as early as the year 1825, with the assent of the Indians, and continued to the present time, is reported to be in a condition equal if not superior to that of any previous period. Great praise is due to the efforts made for years past by its benevolent and distinguished founder, the Hon. Richard M. Johnson, to sustain it, who, notwithstanding his numerous engagements, both private and official, has never ceased to feel the deepest interest in the welfare of the Indian youth there educated. The superintendent represents the present number of students at 68.

Other schools from which reports have been received appear to have maintained their usefulness, and to have added their influence to the general improvement in the condition of the Indians. Most of these schools, as well as those above referred to, are either aided by the government, out of the fund created and set apart for the civilization of Indians, or are sustained by treaty stipulations.—(See appendix, 31 to 78.)

The tabular statements, numbered 79 to 81, show the location of the several schools, the number of scholars, &c., the amounts expended for the education of the several tribes, and the application of the fund for the civilization of Indians.

Experience has clearly demonstrated the superiority of schools conducted on the manual labor system. The mere teaching of letters to the savage mind is not sufficient to give a new direction to his pursuits, or render him useful to his people. It is known that strong prejudices exist among many of the tribes against schools, and it is only by actual observation, by demonstrating the advantages of learning, that the Indian can be made to feel its importance. This can only be done by combining with letters such studies as call forth the energies of the body, and inspire a taste for the arts of civilized life; for to the same extent that the educated Indian appreciates his own knowledge, it frequently occurs that he is depreciated

in the estimation of his tribe. He is viewed as being unfitted for the chase, and is condemned and ridiculed by his fellows, who are unable to understand, and, of course, attach no importance to his acquirements. Thus left without associates, or community of feeling with the few he may have, he seeks the haunts of the depraved white men who swarm on the borders of most of the tribes, resorts to drinking, gambling, and other evil practices, and ends his career, not unfrequently, by violence and bloodshed.

But by combining manual labor and the mechanic arts with the acquisition of letters, he rises above the prejudices of his less favored people. He can make fences; plough and cultivate the fields; can raise all the necessaries of life; manufacture the requisite utensils; repair his gun; and in short supply all his own wants, and exert a useful influence among his people. His brethren, however unlettered, cannot be mistaken in the advantages of all this, for what he sees he can understand. Give him food and show him how it is raised, and there is a strong reason to believe he will very soon endeavor to imitate the example of the industry that produced it. Thus by slow but sure means may a whole nation be raised from the depths of barbarism to comparative civilization and happiness.

The report of the Governor of Iowa, (5) and that of the agent of the Sioux, (8) show that the British half breeds of the North Red river still continue their annual incursions upon the hunting grounds of the Sioux within our territory, and slaughter large numbers of buffalo, the meat of which is dried and used for the subsistence of the traders connected with the Hudson's Bay Company, and also kill other animals valuable for their furs. These half-breeds are the subjects of a foreign power, and ought not to be permitted to hunt within our boundaries, to the injury of our Indians and the citizens of the United States who are trading among them. These incursions have led to quarrels and disputes between them and the Sioux, some of which are said to have been attended with fatal consequences. The British half-breeds complained of are represented as numerous, warlike, and well armed, and consequently come into our territory prepared to resist any attempt on the part of the Sioux to drive them away.

The continued complaints in relation to these expeditions induced you to order a detachment of dragoons, under the command of Captain Sumner, to visit these half-breeds and inform them that they would not be permitted to hunt within our boundaries. This order was carried into effect in July last, and they promised to comply with the injunctions thus imposed, but, at the same time, claimed that the lands once belonged to their Indian ancestors; and have subsequently transmitted a petition to our government, requesting permission to continue their hunting incursions on our territory.

That petition was referred to me, and I had the honor to report that "my opinion is strong and decided that the United States should at once remonstrate to the British government, of which the intruders are subjects, against the incursions of these half-breeds; and should employ its strong arm, if necessary, in protecting and aiding our Indians and others in opposing their visits, in which they destroy the game, trade with our people, and introduce whiskey into the country in direct opposition to the provisions of the intercourse act of 1834;" and I have yet seen no cause to alter or change that opinion.

The annexation of the republic of Texas to the United States will make it necessary to organize an agency or branch of this department within its

boundaries. The superintendency of Indian affairs for the western territory includes all the Indians south of the line of the St. Louis superintendency, and as far west as the Rocky mountains, and north of the line of Mexico and Texas. This is a large district, and requires the undivided attention of the present efficient superintendent, owing to the unsettled condition of the Camanches, Witchetaws, and other tribes, who lead a wandering life. Sometimes being in Texas and sometimes in the United States, it has been impossible to extend over them the eye of this department. They have neither belonged hitherto to the one government nor the other; and although several attempts have been made to negotiate with them, every effort of the kind has thus far proved unsuceessful. A commission has, this fall, been sent out under more favorable auspices, and it is confidently expected that a treaty or treaties of peace and friendship will be entered into with these wandering tribes.

Humanity calls upon the government to take the proper steps to redeem the unfortunate whites, whom these people hold in captivity—men, women, and children—amounting, it is said, to a large number. In negotiating with these Indians, the commissioners have been instructed to employ all proper means in their power to effect the emancipation of these prisoners, and to urge upon the Indians the necessity of abstaining in future from the capture of white persons, and to point out the consequences which must inevitably follow a repetition of their former practices in this particular.

Two interesting and very instructive reports have been received from the sub-agent west of the Rocky mountains, (82 and 83.) They present that country in a new and important light to the consideration of the public.

The advancement made in civilization by the numerous tribes of Indians in that remote and hitherto neglected portion of our territory, with so few advantages, is a matter of surprise. Indeed, the red men of that region would almost seem to be of a different order from those with whom we have been in more familiar intercourse. A few years since the face of a white man was almost unknown to them;—now, through the benevolent policy of the various Christian churches, and the indefatigable exertions of the missionaries in their employ, they have prescribed and well adapted rules for their government, which are observed and respected to a degree worthy of the most intelligent whites.

Numerous schools have grown up in their midst, at which their children are acquiring the most important and useful information. They have already advanced to a degree of civilization that promises the most beneficial results to them, and their brethren on this side the mountains, with whom they may, and no doubt will at some future period be brought into intercourse. They are turning their attention to agricultural pursuits, and, with but few of the necessary utensils in their possession, already produce sufficient in some places to meet their every want.

Among some of the tribes hunting has been almost entirely abandoned, many individuals looking wholly to the soil for support.

The lands are represented as extremely fertile, and the climate healthy, agreeable, and uniform.

Under these circumstances, so promising in their consequences, and grateful to the feelings of the philanthropist, it would seem to be the duty of the government of the United States to encourage their advancement, and still further aid their progress in the paths of civilization. I therefore respectfully recommend the establishment among them of a full agency, with

power to the President to make it an acting superintendency; and to appoint one or more sub agents whenever, in his judgment, the same may become necessary and proper. This agent, to be useful and efficient at that remote point from the seat of government, should be paid a liberal salary, and clothed with sufficient authority to enable him to carry out the benevolent policy of the department, and to command the respect of the numerous tribes in Oregon. The Indians would look upon such a person as a protector, and refer to his arbitrament and decision those disputes and causes of complaint which have occasionally laid the foundation for bloody and long continued feuds among the different bands.

All which is respectfully submitted.

W. MEDILL.

Hon. WM. L. MARCY,
Secretary of War.

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No. 1.

Statement showing the number of each tribe of Indians, whether natives of, or emigrants to, the country west of the Mississippi river, with items of emigration and subsistence.

Names of tribes.	Number of each tribe indigenous to the country west of the Mississippi river.	Number of each tribe wholly or partially removed.	Present western population of each tribe, wholly or partially removed.	Number remaining east, of each tribe.	Number removed since date of last annual report.	Number of each tribe now under subsistence.	Daily cost of subsistence.
Assinaboins	*a* 7,000						
Appachees	*b* 20,280						
Arrapahas	*a* 2,500						
Arickarees	*a* 1,200						
Blackfeet	*a* 13,000						
Creeks	–	24,594	*b* 24,594	*d* 160	*d*		
Cherokees	–	25,911	*b* 25,911	*e* 1,220			
Choctaws	–	*f* 16,359	13,592	5,800	* 1,182	1,182	$64 77
Chickasaws	–	*f* 5,090	4,211	–	100	97	4 60½
Chippewas, Ottowas and Pottawatomies, and Pottawatomies of Indiana	–	5,779	*g* 4,298	*b* 92			
Chippewas of Swan creek and Black river	–	62	*b* 62	*c* 113			
Chippewas of the Mississippi and lake Superior	–	–	–	*c* 7,605			
Caddoes	*b* 2,000						
Camanches	*b* 19,200						
Crows	*a* 4,000						
Cheyennes	*a* 2,000						
Crees	*a* 800						
Delawares	–	826	* 1,039				
Eutaws	*b* 19,200						
Florida or Seminole Indians	–	3,824	3,136	*h*	–	*i* 3,100	*i*
Flatheads	*a* 800						
Gros Ventres	*a* 2,500						
Iowas	*c* 470						
Kickapoos	–	588	* 516				
Kanzas	* 1,607						
Kioways	*b* 1,800						
Miamies	–	–	–	* 650			
Menomonies	–	–	–	* 2,508			
Mandans	*a* 300						
Minatarees	*b* 2,000						
New York Indians	–	–	–	*b* 3,293			
Ottowas and Chippewas of Michigan	–	–	–	*c* 7,055			
Osages	*c* 4,102						
Omahas	*b* 1,301						
Ottoes and Missourias	*b* 931						
Oneidas of Green bay	–	–	–	* 720			
Pawnees	*b* 12,500						
Peorias and Kaskaskias	–	132	*c* 150				
Piankeshaws	–	162	*c* 98				
Pottawatomies of Huron	–	–	–	*c* 100			
Poncas	*b* 777						
Pagans	*b* 30,000						
Quapaws	* 247						

Doc. No. 2.

No. 1—Continued.

Names of tribes.	Number of each tribe indigenous to the country west of the Mississippi river.	Number of each tribe wholly or partially removed.	Present western population of each tribe, wholly or partially removed.	Number remaining east, of each tribe.	Number removed since date of last annual report.	Number of each tribe now under subsistence.	Daily cost of subsistence.
Stockbridges of Green bay	–	–	–	*c* 207			
Stockbridges, Munsees, and Delawares, mixed	–	180	* 268	320			
Sioux	*b* 25,000						
Sacs and Foxes of the Mississippi	* 2,200	–	–	–	*j*		
Sacs and Foxes of the Missouri	*c* 414						
Shawnees	–	1,272	* 929				
Senecas and Shawnees	–	211	* 211				
Senecas from Sandusky	–	251	* 153				
Snakes	*a* 1,000						
Weas	–	225	*c* 176	30			
Winnebagoes	–	4,500	*c* 2,183				
Wyandots of Ohio	–	664	* 555	50			
Wyandots of Michigan	–	–	–	*c* 75			
	179,129	90,630	82,112	29,999	1,28.	4,379	$69 37½

NOTES.

* Those marked with an asterisk, are reported this fall by agents of the government.

a Obtained from report of D. D. Mitchell in 1842, as the latest.

b From statement of last year.

c From census rolls of 1842-'43.

d Last year's statement put down those living east at 744, which must have been incorrect. A party of 160, more or less, are now emigrating, and they are said to be about all that are east.

e Obtained from census roll taken by Wm. H. Thomas, in 1841.

f Different from last year's statement, by 1,182 Choctaws, and 100 Chickasaws, since removed.

g 2,200 are reported lately by the sub-agent as being at Council Bluffs; the remainder, on Osage river, are enumerated from census of 1842.

h About 100 are supposed to be east.

i Reported by Major Armstrong. They are the Indians who settled on Cherokee lands, and, under treaty of 1845, have removed to their own country, receiving subsistence for six months at a cost of three cents and nine mills per ration.

j The Sacs and Foxes, at latest accounts, were on their way to the country selected for them south and west of the Missouri, under treaty of 1842.

The Indians of Oregon Territory are reported by Dr. White, United States sub-agent, at 42,000.

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

No. 2.

MADISON, *July 4*, 1845.

SIR: On the 19th ult. I met the Winnebago Indians at Fort Atkinson, Iowa Territory. On the first day of the council a majority of the chiefs were not present; I adjourned until there was a full representation of all the different bands. I found much jealousy existing among the chiefs of each other, growing out of the manner in which the last annuity payment had been made: I advised them in council to settle their differences among themselves, knowing that if they could not agree with each other it would be difficult to negotiate with them for the neutral country.

In council the chiefs of the Winnebagoes appeared indecisive, and to be acting under the controlling influence and advice of those who appeared to be governed exclusively by interested motives in retaining them in the neutral country, and who were the cause of their refusal to sell that country to the United States.

The Winnebagoes are, at this time, a most degraded race of Indians; their intercourse with the whites has made them reckless and profligate in their habits, and apparently abandoned in their principles; and I give it as my opinion, that a sale of the neutral country can alone be effected by the Government at Washington, where the Indians referred to will be free to act independently of the influences that have and will operate on them in the neutral country. The resolution of the Senate of the United States of the 3d March, 1842, prevents the payment of debts to Indian traders, and reservation of land for the half-breeds; the traders and the half-breeds have heretofore and still exercise an undue influence over the Indians, in making treaties with the United States. I have no doubt the resolution of the Senate referred to operated against the purchase of the neutral country of the Winnebagoes, at the treaty I held with them.

The Winnebago Indians have heretofore refused to accompany any exploring party to examine the country west or southwest of the Missouri river, with an eye to a permanent residence in that country. I find the same feeling still exists with them. I would respectfully recommend, that an exploring party this season be sent into the Sioux country, composed of the principal chiefs of the Winnebagoes, under the direction of their sub-agent, to examine that country, to select a residence for them, and at the same time meet the Sioux chiefs claiming the country. Let them agree with the Winnebago Indians as to the location, limits, and extent of the country to be purchased by them. Could the Sioux chiefs claiming the country in question accompany the Winnebago Indians to Washington, the purchase of the neutral country from the Winnebagoes, and the purchase of the country from the Sioux Indians for the future home of the Winnebagoes, could be made at the same time.

I am informed that the Sioux Indians are willing to sell a portion of their country to the Winnebagoes, south of the St. Peter's river, near the Blue Earth river. The most friendly intercourse, I am told, exists between the Sioux bands and the Winnebagoes.

It is of the first importance that the latter Indians should be permanently located, which might not be the case should they be located south of the St. Peter's river.

Should the northern boundary of the future State of Iowa include that

country, the Winnebagoes should be located north of the St. Peter's river, if a suitable country can be found for them. There was in attendance at Fort Atkinson, at the treaty, about 1,500 of the Winnebagoes, including men, women, and children.

Herewith you will receive my talks with the chiefs of the Winnebago Indians, and their replies to my proposition to purchase of them the neutral country.

* * * * * * * * *

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

HENRY DODGE,
U. S. Commissioner

T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD, Esq.,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 3.

Statement showing the amount drawn between the 30th June, 1844, and the 30th June, 1845, inclusive, on account of the appropriations for the service of the Indian Department, for the half calendar year ending tho 30th June, 1843, and the balance remaining undrawn.

Heads of account.	Specified objects.	Am't drawn between June 30, 1844, and June 30, 1845, inclusive.	Balance remaining undrawn.
Fulfilling treaties with various Indian tribes, viz:			
Choctaws	For education, &c.	$3,750 00	$733 21
Creeks	For education	6 90	2,810 82
Chickasaws	For education	20 70	243 85
Florida Indians	For education	–	349 53
Miamies	For education, &c.	–	853 54
Ottowas and Chippewas	For annuity, education, &c.	–	261 26
Osages	For interest on $69,120, &c.	173 61	343 74
Pottawatomies of Indiana	For education	–	500 00
Quapaws	For education	980 00	
Yancton and Santie Sioux	Blacksmith, &c., and agricultural assistance		
		4,931 21	6,095 95

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No. 3 *a*.

Statement showing the amount drawn between the 30th June, 1844, and the 30th June, 1845, inclusive, on account of the appropriations per act 3d March, 1843, for other purposes than the foregoing, and the balance remaining undrawn.

Heads of account.	Specified objects.	Am't drawn between June 30, 1844, and June 30, 1845, inclusive.	Balance remaining undrawn.
Current expenses, Indian Department.	For provisions, interpreters, and contingencies.	$703 51	$377 47
Removal of New York Indians -	For removal of 250 Indians -	–	20,477 50
Removal of Choctaws, &c. -	For removal of Choctaws west of Mississippi.	–	57,490 00
Subsistence of Choctaw claimants	For subsistence - -	6,000 00	830 50
Carrying into effect treaty with Chippewas of Mississippi.	For agricultural fund - -	1,000 00	2,500 00
Carrying into effect treaty with Sac and Fox Indians, October 11, 1842.	For payment of debts - -	99 25	581 00
Civilization of Indians - -	For civilization of Indians -	–	1,155 00
		7,802 76	83,411 47

No. 3 *b*.

Statement showing the amount drawn between June 30, 1844, *and June* 30, 1845, *on account of the appropriations for the service of the Indian Department for the fiscal year commencing July* 1, 1843, *and ending June* 30, 1844, *and the balance remaining undrawn.*

Heads of account.	Specified objects.	Am'nt drawn between June 30, 1844, and June 30, 1845, inclusive.	Balance remaining undrawn.
Fulfilling treaties with various Indian tribes, viz:			
Chippewas of Mississippi	For support of farmers, &c.	$500 00	
Chippewas of Saganaw	For education	250 00	
Choctaws	For education of 40 youths, &c.	11,250 00	
Do.	For life-annuity to two Wayne warriors	–	$50 00
	For life-annuity to two chiefs	–	300 00
Creeks	For education	308 31	1,874 75
Do.	For education	1,233 14	1,255 54
Chickasaws	For interest on $46,080, at 5 per cent.	2,304 00	
Delawares	For one year's interest on $157,500, at 5 per cent.	2,433 50	
Iowas	For education and missions	3,150 00	1,300 00
Ottowas and Chippewas	For annuity retained, &c.	–	1,000 00
Do.	For vaccine matter, &c.	–	150 00
Do.	For 150 cords wood for dormitory	–	225 00
Do.	For interest on $69,120, at 5 per cent.	–	3,456 00
Osages	For 1,000 cows and calves, 2,000 hogs, &c.	–	7,300 00
Do.	For permanent annuity	206 31	
Ottowas	For permanent annuity	400 00	
Pottawatomies of Huron	For education	1,635 52	171 55
Pottawatomies of Indiana	For annuity	780 00	
Pawnees	For education	–	1,000 00
Quapaws	For interest on $300,000, at 5 per cent.	6,089 95	
Sioux of Mississippi	For blacksmith and assistant, iron and steel, and agricultural implements, &c.	1,340 00	
Yancton and Santie Sioux	For interest on $157,400, at 5 per cent.	1,925 00	
Sacs and Foxes of Missouri	For blacksmith and assistant, iron and steel	–	760 00
Wyandots	For interest on $1,100,000, at 5 per ct.	19,990 00	
Winnebagoes		53,795 73	18,842 84
Current expenses of Indian Department.			
For pay of superintendent of Indian affairs at St. Louis, and Indian agents.	For pay of superintendent, &c., and Indian agents	–	$750 00
For pay of sub-agents	For pay of sub-agents	$1,519 98	605 02
For pay of interpreters	For pay of interpreters	315 83	537 17
For pay of clerk to superintendent at St. Louis.	For pay of clerk to superintendent, St. Louis	–	600 00
For provisions for Indians	For provisions for Indians	1,335 00	3,469 52
For buildings at agencies	For buildings at agencies, &c.	–	428 00
For contingencies Indian Department.	For contingencies Indian Department	415 69	535 47
		3,586 50	6,925 18
For civilization of Indians	For civilization of Indians	5,450 00	635 00
		9,036 50	7,560 18

No. 3 *c.*

Statement showing the amount appropriated for the service of the Indian Department for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1844, and ending June 30, 1845; and the amount drawn on account thereof to June 30, 1845, inclusive; and the balance remaining undrawn.

Heads of account.	Specified objects.	Amount appropriated for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1844, and ending June 30, 1845, inclusive.	Total amount appropriated.	Amount drawn on account thereon to June 30, 1845, inclusive.	Balance remaining undrawn.
Fulfilling treaties with—					
Christian Indians	For permanent annuity		$400 00	$400 00	
Chippewas of Mississippi and Lake Superior	For payment in money	$9,500 00			
Do do do	For payment in goods	19,000 00			
Do do do	For limited annuity, in money	12,500 00			
Do do do	For limited annuity, in goods	10,500 00			
Do do do	For establishing three blacksmiths' shops, &c.	3,000 00			
Do do do	For support of farmers, &c.	1,000 00			
Do do do	For purchase of provisions	2,000 00			
Do do do	For purchase of tobacco	500 00			
Do do do	For purchase of tobacco and provisions	2,000 00			
Do do do	For support of two blacksmiths' shops, &c.	2,000 00			
Do do do	For support of two farmers	1,000 00			
Do do do	For pay of two carpenters	1,200 00			
Do do do	For support of schools	2,000 00			
Do do do	For pay of two carpenters, in part, (omitted to be appropriated last year)	200 00			
Do do do	For payment of debts, &c.	75,000 00			
Chippewas of Saginaw	For permanent annuity	2,800 00	141,400 00	129,926 31	$11,473 69
Do do	For support of blacksmith at Saginaw	2,000 00			
Do do	For education	1,000 00			
			5,800 00	5,300 00	500 00
Chippewas, Menomonies, Winnebagoes, and New York Indians	For education		1,500 00	1,500 00	
Chippewas, Ottowas, and Pottawatomies	For permanent annuity	16,000 00			
Do do do	For limited annuity	14,000 00			
Do do do	For limited annuity	2,000 00			
Do do do	For life annuity to three chiefs	700 00			
Do do do	For blacksmith and assistant	720 00			
Do do do	For iron and steel	220 00			
Do do do	For purchase of salt	250 00			
			33,890 00	33,890 00	
Choctaws	For permanent annuity	3,000 00			
Do	For permanent annuity	600 00			
Do	For permanent annuity	6,000 00			
Do	For life annuity to chief	150 00			
Do	For life annuity to three chiefs	750 00			
Do	For limited annuity	20,000 00			
Do	For blacksmith and assistant	600 00			
Do	For iron and steel	320 00			
Do	For three blacksmiths and assistants	2,520 00			
Do	For iron and steel	960 00			
Do	For education of forty youths, &c.	12,500 00			
Do	For pay of millwright	600 00			
			48,000 00	47,652 43	347 57
Creeks	For permanent annuity	1,500 00			
Do	For permanent annuity	3,000 00			
Do	For permanent annuity	20,000 00			
Do	For limited annuity	10,000 00			
Do	For blacksmith and assistant	840 00			
Do	For iron and steel	270 00			
Do	For two blacksmiths and assistants, and tools	1,680 00			
Do	For iron and steel	540 00			
Do	For blacksmith and assistant, shop and tools	840 00			
Do	For iron and steel	270 00			
Do	For wheelwright	600 00			
Do	For wagon-maker	600 00			
Do	For agricultural implements	2,000 00			
Do	For education	3,000 00			
Do	For education	1,000 00			
Do	For interest on $350,000, at 5 per cent.	17,500 00			
			63,640 00	61,505 28	2,134 72

No. 3 *c*—Continued.

Heads of account.	Specified objects.	Amount appropriated for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1844, and ending June 30, 1845, inclusive.	Total amount appropriated.	Amount drawn on account thereon to June 30, 1845, inclusive.	Balance remaining undrawn.
Fulfilling treaties with—					
Chickasaws	For permanent annuity	$3,000 00			
Do	For education	3,000 00			
			$6,000 00	$3,311 62	$2,688 38
Cherokees	For four blacksmiths and assistants	3,360 00			
Do	For iron and steel	1,080 00			
Do	For wagon-maker	600 00			
Do	For wheelwright	600 00			
			5,640 00	5,640 00	
Delawares	For permanent annuity	1,000 00			
Do	For permanent annuity	500 00			
Do	For permanent annuity	4,000 00			
Do	For permanent annuity	1,000 00			
Do	For life annuity to two chiefs, &c.	200 00			
Do	For life annuity to three chiefs	300 00			
Do	For purchase of salt	100 00			
Do	For blacksmith and assistant	720 00			
Do	For iron and steel	220 00			
Do	For interest on $46,080, at 5 per cent.	2,304 00			
			10,344 00	8,040 00	2,304 00
Florida Indians	For blacksmith and assistant	1,000 00			
Do	For education	500 00			
			1,500 00	1,237 00	263 00
Iowas	For one years' interest on $157,500, at 5 per cent.	–	7,875 00	7,875 00	
Kickapoos	For limited annuity	–	5,000 00	5,000 00	
Kanzas	For limited annuity	3,500 00			
Do	For blacksmith and assistant	720 00			
Do	For iron and steel	220 00			
Do	For agricultural assistance	1,600 00			
			6,040 00	6,040 00	
	For permanent annuity	25,000 00			
Miamies	For eighth of ten instalments	10,000 00			
Do	For seventh of ten instalments	12,568 00			
Do	For fourth of twenty instalments	12,500 00			
Do	For blacksmith and assistant	720 00			
Do	For iron and steel	220 00			
Do	For tobacco, iron, and steel	770 00			
Do	For pay of a miller, in lieu of gunsmith	600 00			
Do	For 160 bushels of salt	320 00			
Do	For education and support of poor	2,000 00			
Do	For agricultural assistance	200 00			
Do	For payment in lieu of laborers	250 00			
			65,148 00	64,148 00	1,000 00
Eel Rivers (Miamies)	For permanent annuity	500 00			
Do do	For permanent annuity	250 00			
Do do	For permanent annuity	350 00			
			1,100 00	1,100 00	
	For limited annuity	20,000 00			
Menomonies	For two blacksmiths and assistants	1,400 00			
Do	For iron and steel	440 00			
Do	For purchase of provisions	3,000 00			
Do	For 2,000 pounds of tobacco	300 00			
Do	For farming utensils, cattle, &c.	500 00			
Do	For 30 barrels of salt	150 00			
Do			25,790 00	25,790 00	
	For blacksmith and assistant	730 00			
Omahas	For iron and steel	220 00			
Do	For agricultural implements	500 00			
Do			1,440 00	1,440 00	
	For limited annuity	30,000 00			
Ottowas and Chippewas	For interest on $200,000	12,000 00			
Do do	For ninth of ten instalments	500 00			
Do do	For education	3,000 00			
Do do	For missions	3,000 00			
Do do	For vaccine matter, &c.	300 00			
Do do	For purchase of provisions	2,000 00			
Do do	For 6,500 pounds of tobacco	975 00			
Do do	For 100 barrels of salt	350 00			
Do do	For 500 fish barrels	750 00			

No. 3 c—Continued.

Heads of account.	Specified objects.	Amount appropriated for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1844, and ending June 30, 1845, inclusive.	Total amount appropriated.	Amount drawn on account thereon to June 30, 1845, inclusive.	Balance remaining undrawn.
Fulfilling treaties with—					
Ottowas and Chippewas	For three blacksmiths and assistants	$2,160 00			
Do do	For iron and steel	660 00			
Do do	For gunsmith at Mackinac	600 00			
Do do	For iron and steel	220 00			
Do do	For keeper of dormitory	600 00			
Do do	For 150 cords of wood for dormitory	450 00			
Do do	For pay of two farmers and assistants	1,600 00			
	For pay of two mechanics	1,200 00			
Ottoes and Missourias	For limited annuity	2,500 00	$60,365 00	$56,840 00	$3,525 00
Do do	For blacksmith and assistant	720 00			
Do do	For iron and steel	220 00			
Do do	For agricultural implements	500 00			
Do do	For education	500 00			
Do do	For two farmers	1,200 00			
Osages	For limited annuity	20,000 00	5,640 00	5,640 00	
Do	For interest on $69,120, at 5 per cent.	3,456 00			
Do	For support of two blacksmiths' establishments	2,000 00			
Do	For pay of two millers	1,200 00			
	For pay of two assistant millers	450 00			
Ottowas	For permanent annuity	1,000 00	27,106 00	23,650 00	3,456 00
Do	For permanent annuity	800 00			
Do	For permanent annuity	1,500 00			
Do	For permanent annuity	1,000 00			
			4,300 00	4,300 00	

Pottawatomies	For permanent annuity	1,000 00			
Do	For permanent annuity	500 00			
Do	For permanent annuity	2,500 00			
Do	For permanent annuity	2,000 00			
Do	For limited annuity	2,000 00			
Do	For limited annuity	1,000 00			
Do	For life annuity to a chief	100 00			
Do	For purchase of salt	140 00			
Do	For 160 bushels of salt	320 00			
Do	For education	1,000 00			
Do	For education	2,000 00			
Do	For blacksmith and assistant	720 00			
Do	For iron and steel	220 00			
Do	For tobacco, iron, and steel	400 00			
Do	For blacksmith and assistant	720 00			
Do	For iron and steel	220 00			
			14,840 00	14,840 00	
			400 00	400 00	
Pottawatomies of Huron	For permanent annuity	—			
Pottawatomies of the Prairie	For limited annuity	1,500 00			
Do do	For life annuity	400 00			
			1,900 00	1,900 00	
Pottawatomies of the Wabash	For limited annuity	—	20,000 00	20,000 00	
Pottawatomies of Indiana	For education	2,000 00	2,000 00	781 23	1,218 77
Piankeshaws	For permanent annuity	500 00			
Do	For permanent annuity	300 00			
			800 00	800 00	
Pawnees	For limited annuity	4,600 00			
Do	For agricultural implements	2,000 00			
			6,600 00	6,600 00	
Quapaws	For limited annuity	2,000 00			
Do	For blacksmith and assistant	840 00			
Do	For iron and steel	220 00			
Do	For pay of farmer	600 00			
Do	For education	1,000 00			
			4,660 00	4,160 00	500 00
Seminoles	For payment for improvements relinquished by Seminoles	—	15,400 00	13,000 00	2,400 00
Six Nations of New York	For permanent annuity	—	4,500 00	4,500 00	
Senecas of New York	For permanent annuity	—	6,000 00	6,000 00	
Sioux of Mississippi	For limited annuity	10,000 00			
Do	For interest on $300,000, at 5 per cent.	15,000 00			
Do	For blacksmith and assistant	840 00			

No. 3 *c*—Continued.

Heads of account.	Specified objects.	Amount appropriated for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1844, and ending June 30, 1845, inclusive.	Total amount appropriated.	Amount drawn on account thereon to June 30, 1845, inclusive.	Balance remaining undrawn.
Fulfilling treaties with—					
Sioux of Mississippi	For iron and steel	$220 00			
Do	For agricultural implements	700 00			
Do	For purchase of medicines, agricultural implements, stock, support of farmers, &c.	8,250 00			
Do	For purchase of provisions	5,500 00			
Yancton and Santie Sioux	For blacksmith and assistant	720 00	$40,510 00	$40,510 00	
Do do	For iron and steel	220 00			
Do do	For agricultural implements	400 00			
Sacs and Foxes of Missouri	For interest on $157,400, at 5 per cent.	—	1,340 00	1,340 00	
Sacs and Foxes of Mississippi	For permanent annuity	—	7,870 00	7,870 00	
Do do	For limited annuity	1,000 00			
Do do	For limited annuity	20,000 00			
Do do	For blacksmith and assistant	10,000 00			
Do do	For iron and steel	840 00			
Do do	For blacksmith and assistant	220 00			
Do do	For iron and steel	840 00			
Do do	For gunsmith	220 00			
Do do	For iron and steel	600 00			
Do do	For agricultural implements	220 00			
Do do	For 40 barrels of salt	800 00			
Do do	For 40 kegs of tobacco	200 00			
Do do	For interest on $200,000, at 5 per cent.	600 00			
Do do	For interest on $800,000, at 5 per cent.	10,000 00			
		40,000 00	85,540 00	85,540 00	
Shawnees	For permanent annuity	1,000 00			
Do	For permanent annuity	2,000 00			
Do	For limited annuity	2,000 00			
Do	For blacksmith and assistant	840 00			
Do	For iron and steel	220 00			
Do	For purchase of salt	60 00			
Do	For balance due the Shawnees under treaty of 1825	2,062 00			
Do	For balance of interest due the Shawnees under treaty of 1831	2,640 72	10,822 72	8,182 00	$2,640 72
Senecas and Shawnees	For permanent annuity	1,000 00			
Do do	For blacksmith and assistant	840 00			
Do do	For iron and steel	220 00	2,060 00	2,060 00	
Senecas	For permanent annuity	5,000 00			
Do	For permanent annuity	500 00			
Do	For blacksmith and assistant	840 00			
Do	For iron and steel	220 00			
Do	For pay of miller	600 00	7,160 00	2,660 00	4,500 00
Wyandots	For permanent annuity	17,500 00			
Do	For blacksmith and assistant	720 00			
Do	For iron and steel	220 00			
Do	For blacksmith and assistant	720 00			
Do	For purchase of iron and steel	220 00			
Do	For payment of improvements under treaty of 1842	50,000 00	69,380 00	60,033 17	9,346 83
		—	3,000 00	3,000 00	
Weas	For permanent annuity	18,000 00			
Winnebagoes	For limited annuity	10,000 00			
Do	For limited annuity	250 00			
Do	For purchase of 50 barrels of salt	350 00			
Do	For purchase of 3,000 pounds of tobacco	175 00			
Do	For purchase of 1,500 pounds of tobacco	2,160 00			
Do	For three blacksmiths and assistants	660 00			
Do	For iron and steel	365 00			
Do	For pay of laborers, and for oxen	3,000 00			
Do	For education				
Do	For support of six agriculturists, purchase of oxen, ploughs, &c.	2,500 00			
Do	For pay of two physicians	400 00			
Do	For interest on $1,100,000, at 5 per cent.	55,000 00	92,860 00	90,360 00	2,500 00

No. 3 *c*—Continued.

Heads of account.	Specified objects.	Amount appropriated for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1844, and ending June 30, 1845, inclusive.	Total amount appropriated.	Amount drawn on account thereon to June 30, 1845, inclusive.	Balance remaining undrawn.
Interest on investments, &c., due Indian tribes, and reimbursable, &c.	For interest due Chippewas, Ottowas, and Pottawatomies, (mills)	$13,899 04			
Do do do	For interest due Cherokees	4,948 04			
Do do do	For interest due Shawnees	2,640 72			
Do do do	For interest due Cherokees, (schools,) treaty of 1819	3,085 36			
Do do do	For interest due Chippewas and Ottowas	1,443 73			
Do do do	For interest due Creek orphans	1,200 00			
	For interest due Kansas schools	150 00			
For ransoming a white boy	For ransoming a white boy by the name of Frank Lee Witter from the Camanches		$27,366 89	$18,658 95	$8,707 94
For payment of the expenses of the delegation of the Cherokees, &c.	For payment of the expenses of the delegation of the Cherokees at Washington the winter past, and their return home	–	200 00	200 00	
For expenses of holding treaty with the Caddoes and other wandering tribes, &c.	For expenses attending the holding a treaty with the Caddoes and other wandering tribes, under the act of March, 1835, &c.	–	2,225 00	2,225 00	
For compensation to two commissioners to examine claims, under the treaty of 1835 with the Cherokees.	For compensation to two commissioners to examine claims, under the treaty with the Cherokees of 1835; and pay of secretary, including provisions for Indians, &c.; and for contingent expenses, &c.	–	2,187 50	2,187 50	
For defraying the contingent expenses of commissioners to adjust claims to Choctaw reservations, under treaty of 1830 with the Choctaws.	For the contingent expenses of commissioners to adjust claims to Choctaw reservations, under the treaty of 1830 with the Choctaws, &c.	–	11,500 00	8,159 86	3,340 14
Pay of superintendent and Indian agents	For pay of superintendent and Indian agents	–	6,100 00	6,100 00	
Pay of interpreters	For pay of interpreters	–	16,500 00	16,500 00	
		–	11,300 00	10,200 00	1,100 00
Pay of clerk to superintendent at St. Louis	For pay of clerk to superintendent at St. Louis	–	1,200 00	1,200 00	
Pay of clerk to acting superintendent Western Territory.	For pay of clerk to acting superintendent Western Territory	–	1,000 00	1,000 00	
Contingencies Indian department	For contingencies Indian department	–	20,000 00	8,504 72	11,495 28
Payment of Jeremiah Smith, jr.	For payment of Jeremiah Smith, jr., &c.	–	4,000 00	4,000 00	
Civilization of Indians	For civilization of Indians	–	10,000 00	4,672 50	5,327 50
			1,039,140 11	958,370 57	80,769 54

No. 4.

Statement exhibiting the amount of investments for Indian account in State stocks, &c.

Names of the tribes for whose account stock is held in trust.	Names of the States which issued the bonds.	Rate per cent.	Amount of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate amount of the bonds of each tribe.	Amount of the annual interest on each.	Aggregate amount of the annual interest for each tribe.
Cherokees	Kentucky	5	$94,000 00	–	$4,700 00	–
Do	Tennessee	5	250,000 00	–	12,500 00	–
Do	Alabama	5	300,000 00	–	15,000 00	–
Do	Maryland	6	761 39	–	45 68	–
Do	Michigan	6	64,000 00	–	3,840 00	–
				$708,761 39		$36,085 68
Do	Maryland	5	41,138 00	–	2,056 90	–
Do	Missouri	5½	10,000 00	–	550 00	–
				51,138 00		2,606 90
Chippewas, Ottowas, & Pottawatomies, (mills)	Maryland	6	130,850 43	–	7,851 02	–
Do do	Pennsylva.	5	28,300 00	–	1,415 00	–
Do do	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	12,576 75	–	754 60	–
				171,727 18		10,020 62
Chippewas, Ottowas, & Pottawatomies, (education.)	Indiana	5	68,000 00	–	3,400 00	–
Do do	Pennsylva.	5	8,500 00	–	425 00	–
Do do	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	867 37	–	52 04	–
				77,367 37		3,877 04
Incompetent Chickasaws	Indiana	5	–	2,000 00	–	100 00
Chickasaw orphans	Arkansas	5	6,000 00	–	300 00	–
Do	Pennsylva.	5	2,000 00	–	100 00	–
Do	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	433 68	–	26 02	–
				8,433 68		426 02
Shawnees	Maryland	6	29,341 50	–	1,760 49	–
Do	Kentucky	5	1,000 00	–	50 00	–
Do	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	1,734 71	–	104 08	–
				32,076 21		1,914 57
Senecas	Kentucky	5	–	5,000 00	–	250 00
Senecas and Shawnees	Kentucky	5	6,000 00	–	300 00	–
Do	Missouri	5½	7,000 00	–	385 00	–
				13,000 00		685 00
Kansas schools	Missouri	5½	18,000 00	–	990 00	–
Do	Pennsylva.	5	2,000 00	–	100 00	–
Do	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	2,700 00	–	135 00	–
Do	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	2,426 18	–	145 57	–
				25,126 18		1,370 57
Creek orphans	Alabama	5	82,000 00	–	4,100 00	–
Do	Missouri	5½	28,000 00	–	1,540 00	–
Do	Pennsylva.	5	16,000 00	–	800 00	–
Do	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	13,700 00	–	685 00	–
Do	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	15,072 60	–	904 35	–
				154,772 60		8,029 35
Menomonies	Kentucky	5	77,000 00	–	3,850 00	–
Do	Pennsylva.	5	12,000 00	–	600 00	–
Do	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	19,204 16	–	1,152 25	–
				108,204 16		5,602 25

No. 4.

ments for Indian account in State stocks, &c.

Amount of the cost of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate cost of the bonds for each tribe.	When the interest is payable.	Where the interest is payable.	Where the interest is deposited, until wanted for application.	Treaties, on reference to which it may be seen for what objects the interest is to be applied.
$94,000 00	–	Semi-ann'ly	New York	Treasury U. S.	Treaty of Dec., 1835.
250,000 00	–	do	do	do	do
300,000 00	–	do	do	do	do
880 00	–	Quarterly	Baltimore	do	do
69,120 00	–	Semi-ann'ly	New York	do	do
	$714,000 00				
42,490 00	–	Quarterly	Baltimore	do	Treaty of Feb. 27, 1819.
10,000 00	–	Semi-ann'ly	New York	do	do
	52,490 00				
150,000 00	–	Quarterly	Baltimore	do	Treaty of Sept., 1833.
24,259 50	–	Semi-ann'ly	Philadelphia	do	do
14,732 41	–	do	Washington	do	do
	188,991 91				
72,264 09	–	do	New York	do	do
7,352 50	–	do	Philadelphia	do	do
1,016 05	–	do	Washington	do	do
	80,632 64				
–	2,000 00	do	New York	do	Treaty of May, 1834.
6,000 00	–	do	do	do	do
1,730 00	–	do	Philadelphia	do	do
508 01	–	do	Washington	do	do
	8,238 01				
33,912 40	–	Quarterly	Baltimore	do	Treaty of August, 1831.
980 00	–	Semi-ann'ly	New York	do	do
2,032 03	–	do	Washington	do	do
	36,924 43				
–	4,900 00	do	New York	do	Treaty of Feb, 1831.
5,880 00	–	do	do	do	do
7,121 87	–	do	do	do	do
	13,001 87				
18,000 00	–	do	do	do	Treaty of June, 1825.
1,730 00	–	do	Philadelphia	do	do
2,727 27	–	do	Washington	do	do
2,842 03	–	do	do	do	do
	25,299 30				
82,000 00	–	do	New York	do	Treaty of June, 1832.
28,487 48	–	do	do	do	do
13,840 00	–	do	Philadelphia	do	do
13,838 37	–	do	Washington	do	do
17,656 04	–	do	do	do	do
	155,821 89				
75,460 00	–	do	New York	do	Treaty of Sept., 1836.
10,235 00	–	do	Philadelphia	do	do
22,126 16	–	do	Washington	do	do
	107,821 16				

Statement of investments for Indian account—Continued.

Names of the tribes for whose account stock is held in trust.	Names of the States which issued the bonds.	Rate per cent.	Amount of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate amount of the bonds of each tribe.	Amount of the annual interest on each.	Aggregate amount of the annual interest for each tribe.	Amount of the cost of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate cost of the bonds for each tribe.	When the interest is payable.	Where the interest is payable.	Where the interest is deposited, until wanted for application.	Treaties, on reference to which it may be seen for what objects the interest is to be applied.
Chippewas and Ottowas	Kentucky	5	$77,000 00	–	$3,850 00	–	$75,460 00	–	Semi-ann'ly	New York	Treasury U. S.	Treaty of March, 1836.
Do do	Michigan	6	3,000 00	–	180 00	–	3,000 00	–	do	do	do	do
Do do	Pennsylva.	5	16,200 00	–	810 00	–	13,912 50	–	do	Philadelphia	do	do
Do do	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	4,600 00	–	230 00	–	4,646 46	–	do	Washington	do	do
Do do	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	3,035 76	–	182 14	–	3,556 09	–	do	do	do	do
Choctaws, under convention with the Chickasaws.	Alabama	5	–	$103,835 76 500,000 00	–	$5,252 14 25,000 00	–	$100,575 05 500,000 00	do	New Orleans	do	Treaty of 1829, & resolution of Senate, 1838.
Delawares, (education)	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	–	7,806 28	–	468 38	–	9,144 27	do	Washington	do	do
Osages, (education)	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	7,400 00	–	370 00	–	7,474 74	–	do	do	do	Treaty of 1825, & resolution of Senate, 1838.
Do	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	11,275 78	–	676 54	–	13,152 06	–	do	do	do	do
				18,675 78		1,046 54		20,626 80				
Choctaw orphans	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	21,362 57	–	1,281 75	–	25,024 11	–	do	do	do	Treaty of Sept., 1830.
Do	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	21,600 00	–	1,080 00	–	21,818 16	–	do	do	do	do
				42,962 57		2,361 75		46,824 27				
Stockbridge and Munsees.	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	–	5,204 16	–	312 25	–	6,096 16	do	do	do	Treaty of May, 1840.
Senecas, New York	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	–	64,500 00	–	3,870 00	–	74,938 75	do	do	do	Treaty of May, 1842.
Choctaws, (education)	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	–	40,000 00	–	2,400 00	–	45,776 00	do	do	do	Treaty of Sept. 27, 1830.
				2,140,591 32	–	111,679 06	–	2,194,120 51				

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, June 30, 1845.

No. 4 *a*.

Statement exhibiting the annual interest appropriated by Congress to pay the following tribes of Indians, in lieu of investing the sums of money provided by treaty in stocks.

Names of the tribes.	Amount provided by treaty for investment.	Rate per cent.	Amount of interest annually appropriated.	Authority by which made.
Delawares	$46,080	5	$2,304	Treaty, September 29, 1829.
Chippewas and Ottowas	200,000	6	12,000	Res'n Senate, May 27, 1836.
Sioux, Mississippi	300,000	5	15,000	Treaty, September 29, 1837.
Sacs and Foxes, Missouri	157,400	5	7,870	Treaty, October 21, 1837.
Sacs and Foxes, Mississippi	200,000	5	10,000	Treaty, October 21, 1837.
Winnebagoes	1,100,000	5	55,000	Treaty, November 1, 1837.
Iowas	157,500	5	7,875	Res'n Senate, Jan. 19, 1838.
Osages	69,120	5	3,456	Res'n Senate, Jan. 19, 1838.
Creeks	350,000	5	17,500	Treaty, November 23, 1838.
Sacs and Foxes, Mississippi	800,000	5	40,000	Treaty, October 11, 1842.
	3,380,100	–	171,005	

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, June 30, 1845.

No. 5.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, BURLINGTON, IOWA,
September 6, 1845.

SIR: I send you with this the annual report of Captain John Beach, U. S. agent for the Sac and Fox Indians. I shall part with that excellent officer with much regret. The ability and fidelity with which he has performed the duties of his responsible and laborious station deserves, as it has from time to time received, the thanks of the department. The recent death of his excellent wife, and his own greatly impaired health, are, I fear, preying upon a very excitable mind to an extent that may prove fatal to him. After the interment of the remains of his wife, at the Old Agency, he was so rash as to cause himself to be put in a wagon and set out for the Mississippi, on his way to St. Louis, to bring up the money for the Sac and Fox annuities; and, after one day's travel, became so ill as to be compelled to return. He then despatched a trusty messenger for the money, and will be ready to make the payments as early as, under the circumstances, it could have been done. He informs me that he has some fears that a part of the Foxes may make a show of refusing to remove with the others, but thinks they will yield when they see the others going, and are made to understand they will be compelled to go. Nothing but

my own feebleness deters me from going to his assistance; and, unpleasant as such a journey will be in my debilitated state, I will go if I should learn that he is unable, from the state of his health, to get through with the arduous duties now pressing upon him. He informs me that Keokuck is giving him every assistance in his power. and displays more than his usual capacity and firmness. What a noble Indian that would be, but for his intemperate habits!

With great respect, your obedient servant,

JOHN CHAMBERS.

T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD, Esq.,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, War Department.

No. 5 *a*.

IOWA SUPERINTENDENCY OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Executive Office, Burlington, I. T., Sept. 28, 1845.

SIR: I made my last annual report on the subject of Indian affairs in this superintendency, under the impression that the formation of a State government, and the admission of the Territory into the Union, would, before this time, have virtually abolished the office I have the honor to hold; but that event not having happened, it again becomes my duty to submit the usual annual report; with which I beg leave to submit also an estimate of the appropriations necessary to enable the department to comply with the stipulations of subsisting treaties with the tribes at present residing in this superintendency, and for the payment of the contingent and incidental expenses of the different agencies located in this Territory.

The time stipulated by the treaty of October, 1842, with the Sacs and Foxes, for their final removal from the lands ceded by them to United States, will expire on the 11th of next month, and already a part of the Sacs, led by their energetic and talented chief, Keokuck, are on their way to the lands west of the Missouri, which have been designated for their future residence, and my most recent information from their agency at Racoon river creates some doubt whether the Foxes will not give trouble before they can be induced to follow their confederates.

The recent severe indisposition of Captain Beach, the efficient and valuable agent in charge of these Indians, has enabled evil-disposed and interested persons to act upon the credulity of a portion of the tribe, and by keeping them drunk, and misrepresenting the character and situation of the land designated for their future residence, to prejudice them against it, and render them unwilling to remove. Such measures have, however, been directed as will, if promptly executed, I have no doubt, induce them to follow Keokuck and his band of Sacs, without any attempt at resistance. Heretofore the Sacs and Foxes have faithfully and promptly performed all their treaty obligations, and have generally conducted themselves with much greater propriety than could have been expected from a people so perfectly savage in their habits of living, and, at the same time, so excessively prone to intoxication as they are.

The general conduct of the Sioux with whom the government have treaty relations, has been as little exceptionable within the last year as at

any former period. Not having been favored with the reports made by the officers in command of the military excursion, made by order of the government, into the country inhabited by the wandering bands, commonly called the Upper Sioux, last autumn, and again this summer, I can only speak of the effect of these expeditions upon the Indians from the information of others. Col. Bruce, the Sioux agent at St. Peter's, thinks a good effect has been produced by them.

The Indians taken into custody by Captain Sumner last fall, on a charge of being concerned in the murder of some white men who were driving cattle, escaped before they reached Fort Atkinson, and I learn from rumor, that others who were supposed to have participated in the murders, and were surrendered by their chief, have escaped from prison at Dubuque.

In his annual report for this year, Col Bruce, Sioux agent, states that he understands that the British half-breeds from Red river of the north, in their intercourse with Captain Sumner of the dragoons, in his recent expedition to the north, asserted a claim to the Sioux lands within our jurisdiction. Without reference to any of the particulars of their claim, (for I am not informed of them,) I would respectfully suggest that these half-breeds, who are British subjects, many of them educated and civilized, have at no time resided within our jurisdiction, and are not amenable to our laws regulating trade and intercourse with the Indians, and cannot be recognised by our government as having power to bind themselves by treaty stipulations, or to cede to us the land to which they set up claim. But the circumstance of their having set up a claim to that region of country renders it more than ever important that they should be prevented from intruding upon it.

Of the Winnebagoes I regret to have to repeat that they are the most drunken, worthless, and degraded tribe of which I have any knowledge. They have heretofore wasted their annuity provisions in a very short time after receiving them, and the large sum paid them annually in money passes almost immediately into the hands of the traders—so that there is some portion of almost every year in which they suffer for food. An attempt was made last year, under the authority of the department, to guard against this painful state of things, by applying a part of their annuity to the purchase of provisions, but they obstinately protested against it, and the benevolent intention of the department was defeated by the timidity and ignorance of the late sub-agent; and the effect of it would have been intense suffering, but that the same sub-agent, by transcending his powers and applying money put into his hands by the Government for other purposes, to the purchase of provisions, saved them from the consequences of the obstinacy with which they refused to let their own money be supplied.

The habitual drunkenness of this tribe, and their habit of wandering into the settled parts of Wisconsin, and of this Territory, and their obstinate perseverance in establishing themselves in considerable numbers on the Mississippi river, out of their own country, in direct violation of their treaties with us, has made it very desirable to compel them to keep within their own bounds; and on several occasions they have been brought in by military detachments from Fort Atkinson, but they almost immediately wander off again; and it is now estimated by the sub-agent at Turkey river, that about one half of the tribe is in Wiskonsin and along the Mississippi.

I understand that another abortive attempt has been made by the government, in the course of the last summer, to obtain their relinquishment of the Neutral Ground, and such will ever be the result of any effort to remove them, until the government can by some means obtain as much influence over them as individuals whose interest it is to retain them there possess.

I have heretofore taken the liberty, in my annual reports, to express the opinion that our system of "trade and intercourse" with the Indian tribes is, in this region of country, rapidly destroying them, and I repeat that they are the victims of fraud and intemperance, superinduced by the large sums of money paid them annually by the government, without proper guards to protect them against the superior cunning and avarice of unprincipled white men. The dictates of humanity, apart from considerations of sound policy, demand from the national legislature an investigation of the abuses practised under the present system, and, as I believe, a radical change of it.

You have been furnished with the annual reports of the Sac and Fox and Sioux agents. The present incumbent of the Winnebago sub-agency has been so short a time in office, that he probably is not yet possessed of the information necessary to enable him to report.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN CHAMBERS.

T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD, Esq.,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, War Department.

No. 6.

RACOON RIVER AGENCY, *September* 1, 1845.

SIR: Little of interest has occurred among the Sacs and Foxes since the rendition of my last annual report, one year ago. With about the same regularity that the seasons of the year successively pass on, their seasons of employment or of idleness follow each other—the period lost in idleness and its attendant dissipation greatly preponderating over that devoted to any serviceable occupation. Having received their annuities, (which were last year paid at the middle of September,) they disperse over the country for the purpose of hunting and remain so scattered until spring, inhabiting their temporary lodges made of mats, which they erect under the protection of some densely wooded bottom land, and moving from place to place as circumstances may require. Since they have been confined to the possessions of the small tract which they now occupy, its destitution of game has compelled them to visit and remain about the border settlements during the winter.

Much evil undoubtedly results to them from this practice; and I invariably endeavor to use every means in my power to check it. Keokuck and his band remained last winter upon the Des Moines in their own country; but the Foxes and the Hardfish band of Sacs, less heedful of my advice, wintered among the whites—the former visiting their old haunts upon the Iowa, to which they are much attached, while the latter went upon the borders of Missouri. I believe that no complaints were made

by the whites of this intrusion; but the chief evil appears to result to the Indians in the impositions practised upon them, and the advantages taken of their ignorance and necessities, as they usually return from such visits well stripped of their property. Nor does the evil end here; but at the succeeding payment they are beset by hosts of harpies, importuning for the settlement of their notes of hand, and other obligations.

As soon as the sap commences to run, the Indians move to their "sugar camps," and employ themselves in the manufacture of sugar and molasses as long as they can. After which, they repair to their permanent villages; and, having once more placed their bark lodges in habitable order, the time has arrived for the commencement of their agricultural operations. These are somewhat limited, and mostly performed by the females, being confined to the planting of a little corn, beans, and melons, in the small patches broken up with hoes in the soft timbered ground, though of late the men have shown an increasing disposition to assist, and have applied to me for the purchase of horses, harness, and ploughs, from their agricultural fund.

From the time of planting until their payment, except the month of June, (usually consumed in a buffalo hunt,) the Indians hang about their villages, addicted to the most constant and revolting intoxication, the facilities for which are so deplorably numerous, and will continue to increase until greater certainty of detection and the *penitentiary* shall be made to await all those who are guilty of the *crime* of producing it.

Early last spring some of the chiefs applied to me for advice as to the propriety of planting corn, in view of their anticipated removal beyond the Missouri, before the close of the season. I recommended them to plant as usual; and they accordingly raised quite a large supply, which will be of much service in moving, and will save a considerable inroad upon their funds, which would have been otherwise used for the purchase of provision. The Sacs, under the good management of Keokuck, are only awaiting their payment, now soon to take place, in order to commence their journey. The Foxes are less satisfied with the idea of leaving the country to which, from long possession, they have naturally; still, from the best means which I now have of forming my opinion, I believe that the principal men, aware of the fact that they must move, are fully intending and expecting to go without opposition, and I am therefore led to hope that the whole nation will be started without difficulty. But upon this subject I need not say more here, because, according to your instructions, I shall keep you informed of facts as they occur, and of arrangements as they shall be made, in reference to this business. I fully trust in experiencing the gratification of informing the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, in time for his annual report, that all the Sacs and Foxes have moved from the territory under your government within the period limited. A word in praise of Keokuck: It is a pleasure to transact business with him, because of his aptness to understand motives and arguments, and to appreciate the condition of his people; while his readiness to co-operate, and forward every measure suggested by me, merits the approbation of the department.

The Sacs and Foxes employ two blacksmiths and two gunsmiths, to whose service they are entitled under the different treaty stipulations. They have no other mechanics, nor any farmer among them. They have anticipated the necessity of turning their attention more than they have

hitherto done to the cultivation of the soil, after they shall become fixed in their new home; in which case, they will undoubtedly need the assistance and instruction of some experienced farmer. As to assuming any of the habits or customs of civilization, these Indians are as averse as ever even to the idea of its probability. In regard to some few of their ancient manners, and especially of their superstitions—perhaps, too, in respect to their vindictiveness, cruelty, and other unamiable traits of early character, the last fifty years of intercourse with our countrymen may be supposed, of necessity, to have modified some habits, and to have softened some asperities of their original nature, yet, in general, they are as much savages, and as anxious to continue such, as they were a half century ago. But the new circumstances under which they are soon to be placed, and their own expectations in respect to them; the much diminished size of country which they will occupy, the reported scarcity of game, and the influence of the example of those tribes more or less civilized, by which they will be surrounded, will, I confidently hope, exert a beneficial tendency at least upon the rising generation, gradual though it may be. To one accustomed to reside among them, and knowing the abandoned character of the great portion of those with whom they are much in contact—men whose licentious dispositions, love of gain, and propensities for the most sensual indulgences, unchecked by any respect either for their own characters or the opinions of the more virtuous, will ever draw them to our frontiers as long as a hope of success in their shameless course may exist—it is not a subject of astonishment that the education, the civilization, and especially the glorious religion of the white man, are held by them in so little estimation. Our education appears to consist in knowing how most effectually to cheat them; our civilization in knowing how to pander to the worst propensities of nature, and then beholding the criminal and inhuman results with a cold indifference—a worse than heathen apathy; while our religion is readily summed up in the consideration of dollars and cents.

Many religious denominations in our country (for one, in particular, I can speak) are ready, at the first intimation of encouragement, to extend the hand of benevolence and Christian love among these tribes; nor does a desire for the welfare and happiness of my own children maintain a much higher place in my heart than an earnest wish to see, and, if permitted, be instrumental in bringing forward, the day when love to the Lord Jesus shall become the preponderating sentiment in the lives and characters of these benighted red men. But, sir, with every feeling of the most profound respect for those who hold, as I believe, at least a partial remedy in their hands, a stern conviction of duty impels me to say that until our legislators awaken to the voice of justice, of humanity, and of oppressed virtue, which now so loudly calls upon them, even hope, that principle which will excite exertion often under the most cheerless prospects, seems utterly vain; and the philanthropist and the Christian must sorrow in secret, drawing their chief comfort from the promises of the High God of heaven, that He will not always suffer iniquity to prevail upon the earth.

I will conclude by observing, that we were unfortunate in the choice of our present location. I doubt if there can be a more unhealthy point within the Territory of Iowa than the site of this agency and its vicinity.

In common with nearly all the residents, civil and military, of the place, I, with my family, have suffered severely from diseases of a malarious origin during the last and present summer. Since September 1st, 1844, seventy-nine Indians have died, including Pashepuho, a chief of some note as a warrior. The tribe number about twenty-two hundred. Please address, in future, while I remain within your superintendency, "Sac and Fox agency, Iowa."

With great regard, I have the honor to be your obedient servant,

JOHN BEACH,
U. S. Indian agent.

His Excellency JOHN CHAMBERS,
Governor of Iowa, Superintendent Indian Affairs, Burlington.

No. 6 *a*.

SAC AND FOX PATTERN FARM,
October 1, 1845.

SIR: I have the honor of submitting a brief account of the Sac and Fox farming operations of Missouri river for the present season.

Our efforts have been attended with uncommon success, in almost every respect. Crops of all kinds have yielded most abundantly, and have come to maturity very nearly a month sooner than last year.

The fields cultivated by the Indians are so numerous and small, and so irregularly laid out, that it is impossible for me to speak with any thing like accuracy of the quantity of corn, beans, pumpkins, squashes, &c., raised by them. Suffice it to say that all have plenty, and but few families have not a considerable surplus of such articles. From the almost total failure last year, they were stimulated to more vigorous exertions the present, and if they shall again come to want before the making of another crop, it can only be by improvidence and waste, and they will have no shadow of reason for asking the aid of government, as, by their misfortunes, they were compelled to do last year. About fifty acres of the pattern farm were cultivated by the Indians the present season, upon which, with our assistance, they have made a good crop. In consequence of this, the corn crop intended for the use of the farming operations is not so large as last year, but is amply sufficient.

The wheat crop consisted of sixty-five acres, and I estimate the aggregate yield at one thousand bushels, and many good judges think this under the amount. It was all well secured at the proper time by hands hired for the purpose, assisted by the Indians, and during the past month has been threshed, cleaned, and taken care of by them. If properly handled, it will yield them at least two hundred barrels of flour, or something over one hundred pounds to each man, woman, and child of the nation.

Seed of a superior kind has been obtained for the next crop; and profiting by the experience of the present year, we have sown earlier than usual, and much of it presents already a very promising aspect.

The potatoe crop consists of seven acres, and though not yet secured, promises a fair yield, and will be sufficient for their consumption.

In relation to what I conceive to be the main object of the government in establishing and conducting a farm for them—to wit, their *improvement in the art of agriculture*—it may be observed, that although our success may not equal what would be expected by persons unacquainted with their peculiar prejudices and habits, still there is much calculated to encourage and stimulate our exertions in this respect. One visible improvement of the present over the past year is, that nearly all of them have planted their corn in regular rows, instead of promiscuously over their fields as heretofore. I regret that the peculiar condition of our farm the past spring required my active service as a hand, when I could have been employed with very great advantage in assisting them in arranging their teams, gearing, ploughs, &c., for their spring work. As it was, many of them did considerable ploughing, and, with proper encouragement, would become expert ploughmen.

I may here observe that I think their employment as hands on the patern farm would be highly calculated to improve them in agricultural knowledge. Such of them as have been employed since I have conducted their farming operations have performed well, although, generally, they cannot be induced to labor many days in succession. This I suppose would be the principal objection to their constant employment; but I would suggest, that whenever services are required on the farm which they are capable of performing, it would be infinitely to their advantage to employ them even at an extravagant price.

It was my intention to embrace the present occasion of making some other suggestions in relation to what I conceived to be the most proper steps to their future advancement, but I find it would require more space than I would be justified in using in a communication like the present.

Willing at all times to lend my feeble endeavors to promote in any way the welfare of these people, for whose benefit you have long and faithfully labored, I have the honor to subscribe myself, your most obedient servant,

JOHN W. FORMAN,
Sac and Fox Farmer.

MAJOR W. P. RICHARDSON,
Indian Sub-agent, Great Nemaha sub-agency.

No. 7.

TURKEY RIVER SUB-AGENCY, *September* 20, 1845.

SIR: I entered upon the duties of this Sub-agency on the 5th of July last.

I found the condition of the Winnebagoes better than I had anticipated. Their moral and intellectual character has been greatly underrated.

They are, at present, on friendly terms with all the neighboring tribes of Indians. Their proximity to the whites is not favorable to their moral improvement. Abundant facilities are afforded them for gratifying their thirst for whiskey. The vigilance of Captain Sumner, commandant at Fort Atkinson, and his dragoons, is an effectual check against the smuggling of whiskey into this section of the Indian country by the whites;

but it is impossible wholly to prevent the Indians from going singly and in small companies to the white settlements to procure it.

A large proportion of the Winnebago Indians reside on that portion of the Neutral Ground to which they have relinquished the right to occupy, except for the purpose of hunting. They contend that an Indian always resides where he hunts; and that if they do not occupy the land by cultivation, or for other purposes than hunting, they do not violate their treaty stipulation. I shall make an effort, when these Indians are collected at the ensuing payment, to persuade them to remove to and reside within their proper limits.

There is but little game on the Winnebago hunting grounds. The chiefs appear to be fully aware that their people will have to resort to other resources than hunting to obtain a livelihood. They made a request to-day, in council, that they might have more lands ploughed.

The superintendent of the farm has not submitted a report. I have caused the land enclosed and under cultivation at this place to be measured. There are 260 acres enclosed. 94 acres have been cultivated by the hands employed on the farm; 84 acres by squaws; 58 by half-breeds; and 24 not cultivated. The crop is estimated as follows: 1,150 bushels of corn, 1,200 bushels of oats, and 750 bushels of potatoes. The corn has been cut up and put in shocks, and the oats are secured in stacks. Some 50 tons of hay have been made for the subsistence of the stock on the farm; and two hands have been employed during the hay season in assisting the Indians to make hay. There have been nine fields ploughed for the Indians, estimated by the men who ploughed them to contain 275 acres. From 7 to 16 hands have been employed on the farm since last April.

I have examined the grist mill, and think it not worth repairing.

The report of Mr. Thissel, acting principal of the Winnebago school, is herewith transmitted. On inspection of the school, the scholars appear to have made good progress in the several branches taught in the school.

Instruction in agriculture and gardening has been somewhat neglected, and some branches of industry required by treaty stipulation to be taught in the female department have also been neglected. The annuity provisions furnished the Winnebagoes this year are of good quality, and the instructions of the department relative to the issuing of it have been strictly adhered to. The agency and school buildings will, with a small expense for repairs, be made comfortable for winter.

From my short residence among the Winnebagoes, and the limited opportunities which I have had, as yet, to ascertain from personal observation the effect of existing laws and regulations upon them, it will not be expected that I should volunteer any suggestion relative to the proper policy to be adopted by the government towards them.

Respectfully, &c.,

J. E. FLETCHER,
U. S. Indian Sub-agent.

His Excellency JOHN CHAMBERS,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Iowa.

No. 8.

ST. PETER'S AGENCY, IOWA TERRITORY,
September 1, 1845.

SIR: In making this report of the condition of the Indians within this agency, I have but little to add to former reports. The changes, if any, are scarcely to be noticed.

The past season was exceedingly favorable for hunting; the mildness of the winter, the small quantity of snow, and the high prices paid for furs, encouraged the Indians to make more than usual hunts, and the consequence was, a great diminution of suffering among their families—being better fed and clothed.

Were it not for the facility the Sioux now possess to obtain whiskey, their situation, compared with that of the adjoining tribes, would be enviable; but, like all of the same race, the greater portion of the Sioux are much addicted to liquor; and there is no hope that it will not in the end lead to their destruction, unless means are taken, at an early date, to restrain abandoned white men from introducing it among them. It is not an uncommon occurrence for Indians to come a distance of three or four hundred miles to obtain whiskey, for which they will give their horses, guns, traps, &c., &c., in exchange. Many of the liquor dealers, I am informed, have a large number of the foregoing articles obtained of the Indians in exchange for whiskey.

These irregular traders living upon the ceded lands have advantages over the regular traders, who do not furnish the Indians with the liquid poison, but do all they can to prevent its introduction into the country.

The only mode that presents itself to my mind to put a stop to this evil, would be to enforce the laws authorizing the removal of all intruders from the public lands. If this law were put in force, the purpose would be effected; bad characters upon the frontiers would cease to exercise their deleterious influence upon the Indians, and the benevolent intentions of the government could be carried out.

I am happy to report, what I stated in my report last year, that the regular licensed traders in the country do all in their power to aid the government in carrying out its views, more especially in its endeavors to put a stop to the introduction of liquor among the Indians.

The expedition of the United States troops to the Upper Saint Peter's last autumn, and the apprehension of the murderers of the cattle drovers, have been attended with great good effects upon the roving bands of the Upper Sioux. They now find that the government can punish them for their misconduct; and the consequence is, that the lives and property of white men are safer now in the Indian country than they have been at any former period.

The half-breeds of Red river still continue their hunting expeditions into our territory, and upon the lands which have always been claimed by the Sioux.

A detachment of dragoons, under Captain Sumner, visited a camp of these people in the month of July, last, and warned them that thereafter they would not be permitted to hunt within the United States boundaries. They promised compliance, but, at the same time, presented a claim to the lands, as having belonged to their ancestors. This claim was never heard of until two years ago, when the half-breeds, learning that it was

the intention of our government to put a stop to their annual hunting incursions into our territory, determined, as a *dernier* resort, to deny the right of the Sioux to these lands, and affirm their own prior *title*. Our government will never recognise this absurd claim to the great injury of the large tribe of Indians who have claimed this land, and are under the protection of the United States. But as I learn a report will be made by Captain Sumner, favorable to the half-breeds, I thought it proper to place the question in its proper light before you. The Sioux will never consent to relinquish their right in these lands, which have been in their possession time immemorial. These half-breeds are subjects of a foreign power, and the United States government should take steps to prevent, for the future, the hunting visits of these people within our boundaries.

The treaty of peace made under the auspices of the government officers between the Sioux and Chippewas has been kept inviolate, if we except two or three individual cases of outrage.

The murder of the Sioux by two Chippewas (of the band of Pillagers) about two months since, still remains unatoned for, and the band to which the murdered man belonged have behaved with great propriety since the occurrence, awaiting patiently the action of the government in the matter. They confidently expect the delivery of the criminals, and I hope they will not be disappointed, as the chief has promised to bring them to Fort Snelling early this fall.

The high water during the months of May and June has prevented some of the bands from planting as much corn as usual, but the crops which are now harvesting are as good as they ordinarily make, and with care might last them through the ensuing winter and spring months, when the proceeds of their hunts are added.

The blacksmiths, as usual, have labored at the trade as industriously as any others in the employment of the department. They have made a large number of traps, hoes, axes, and such other articles as the Indians want, together with necessary repairs of guns, kettles, and the work necessary for the Indian farmers.

I herewith transmit a letter from the Rev. Dr. Thomas S. Williamson, which accompanied his school report of the Lac-qui-parle mission school, also Mr. Stephen R. Riggs's school report of the Traverse Des Sioux. The other missionaries have not, as yet, made their reports.

Very, &c.,

AMOS J. BRUCE,
U. S. Indian Agent.

His Excellency JOHN CHAMBERS,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Burlington, Iowa Territory.

No. 9.

SUPERINTENDENCY OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
FOR THE TERRITORY OF WISCONSIN,
Madison, October 3, 1845.

SIR: The regulations of your department require of me an annual report of the state and condition of the Indians in this superintendency. The annual report of the sub-agent for the Menomonie and Oneida Indians is herewith enclosed for your information.

I was anxious to have forwarded by this mail the annual report of the sub-agent for the Chippewa Indians. His report has not been received at this office; but, on its receipt, will be forwarded without delay to your department.

1. The Menomonie Indians. The state and condition of this nation of Indians has not materially changed since the last annual report from this office. They are represented by the citizens bordering on the Fox river as troublesome and annoying to them, by committing depredations on their stock and other property; and they appear desirous that they should be confined to the limits of their own country, which is almost impossible, from the fact that the white settlements are extending along the Fox river; and their proximity to the Menomonie country places them in daily contact with the Indians.

I have, in several of my former reports to your department, recommended the purchase of the Menomonie country by the United States. The extinguishment of the Indian title to that country, at an early day, is of the first importance to the settlement, growth, and prosperity of the northern settlements of Wisconsin. A part of this country is represented as being well adapted to agricultural purposes; a portion of it abounds in extensive pine forests, and the northern part is said to contain copper ore. Could their country be purchased, and the Menomonies removed southwest of the Missouri river, it would be the most advisable course. These Indians have a great aversion and dread of the Sac and Fox Indians, who are about to remove to that country. Should they refuse to go south, perhaps a purchase could be made of the country bordering on the Mississippi, below the mouth of the Crow-wing river, for them. It was suggested to me last summer, that it might probably be done. It would be a good location for them, as they would be remote from the white settlements; and as they are friendly both to the Sioux and Chippewa Indians, they would be placed in a good position to maintain peace between those nations, who have so long been hostile to each other.

The Menomonie Indians have always maintained the most friendly relations to the United States, and have refused to receive presents from the British government since the late war. They are now, from their long intercourse with the whites, a most degraded race of people. They are, like all other Indians who are able to obtain spirituous liquors from unprincipled whiskey dealers, doomed to destruction; and the remnant of this nation can only be saved by removing them remote from the white settlements.

2. The Oneida Indians, residing near Green Bay, are now more a civilized than a savage people. They live like the white people, and have turned their attention to agricultural pursuits and raising stock. The policy of the United States in purchasing the remaining lands of these Indians is the true one; and their removal southwest of the Missouri river will secure them a permanent home.

3. The Chippewa Indians, as far as I have been able to obtain information, are in about the same state and condition they were at the last annual report. They maintain the most friendly relations towards the United States and their citizens.

The humane policy of the government has had the most beneficial effect in restraining the Sioux and Chippewa Indians, lately, from their hostili-

ties towards each other. The upper bands of the Chippewa Indians on the Mississippi, I am informed, are in the habit of visiting the British settlements on the North Red river annually. I think it would be good policy to make a few presents to the chiefs and warriors of those bands of the Chippewa Indians that do not receive a part of the annuities at La Pointe. The British government has already exercised great influence over the Indian tribes of the northwest; and it has in a great degree been owing to their making to the Indians in our territory, annually, presents in goods of a superior quality, that they have acquired that influence. It is certainly the policy of our government to counteract British influence within the territorial limits of the United States. A few presents in medals, swords, laced-coats, &c., for the chiefs and warriors of upper bands of Chippewas, would have a good effect in conciliating their good will, and making them friendly to the United States, and putting it out of the power of the British agents to control them to the injury of the United States.

I deem it my duty, in my report to your department, to state, that the Winnebago and Pottawatomie Indians are troublesome and annoying to the border citizens in this Territory. There is, from the best information I can obtain, about 100 of the Pottawatomie Indians that have not been removed from this Territory. They hunt on the borders of Lake Michigan, and trade with the merchants at Milwaukie. There are two small bands of the Winnebago Indians that were removed west of the Mississippi river. The "Dandy," a Winnebago chief, heads one of these bands that hunt and fish on the Wisconsin and Fox rivers. The son of Whirling Thunder, a chief of the Winnebagoes, who killed Mr. Parynette, the interpreter, in 1836, is located with his band on the Upper Rock river, and has remained there for several years. Both the Winnebagoes and Pottawatomies frequently impose themselves on the border settlers for Menomonies. During the present summer, I called on the commanding officer at Fort Winnebago for troops to remove Indians who were intruding on the white settlements. They were ordered to remove the intruding Indians, but were unable to find them. I am not prepared to state what effect the withdrawal of the United States troops from Forts Crawford and Winnebago may have upon our Indian relations. If the commanding officer of the United States dragoons at Fort Atkinson could be ordered by the War Department to furnish a detachment of dragoons, under the command of an officer, to remove the intruding Indians, it might be done with but little expense to the government. If, however, that cannot be done, I would be pleased to be advised by your department what will be the proper course for the superintendent to pursue as to the removal of intruding Indians who may trespass on the rights of the people of the Territory.

I am, &c.,

HENRY DODGE.

T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD, Esq.,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 10.

INDIAN SUB-AGENCY, GREEN BAY, W. T.,
August 25, 1845.

SIR: In compliance with the regulations of the department, I respectfully submit the following report:

The tribes living within this sub-agency are the Menomonie and Oneida Indians. At the annuity payment of 1844, the Menomonies numbered 2,508 souls.

Several bands of these Indians still reside upon the ceded lands. In the spring and summer of 1844, about 200 of the Menomonies, principally Catholics, emigrated to their own country, and have settled upon the south shore of lake Pwawgan. They occupy a fine tract of farming land, which they have cleared. They have also built substantial log houses, and have planted gardens and fields around them; using for that purpose the cattle and farming utensils which I purchased for them at the last annuity payment, and which they have kept in good condition. These are generally sober, industrious people, and they have made a very respectable settlement in every way. I am still of opinion that the Menomonies can be removed to their own country without its costing the government one dollar. Several small bands have emigrated during the present season. They are a tractable tribe of Indians, and are well disposed towards the government and people of the United States.

At the annuity payment of 1844, a Menomonie woman reported to me, in general council, that her mother had been killed by a trader named Stamlus Chapperis, on the pay ground, at the payment of 1843. She stated, in answer to my inquiries, that Chapperis went to her mother's lodge and asked her to pay him; she said she could not do so; that her money had been taken from her by the traders before she could return to her lodge; upon which Chapperis beat, stamped, and kicked the deceased, breaking several of her ribs, which caused her death within three days after. I represented the facts to the United States attorney, at the last term of the court, in May, 1845. The grand jury found a bill of indictment against Chapperis for manslaughter; he has not yet been apprehended; he resides upon the Menomonie river, in the State of Michigan, and has been engaged in the Indian trade for the last 30 or 40 years.

I am sorry to be obliged to add, that the Menomonies cannot control their appetite for whiskey whenever it comes within their reach; their fondness for this seems incurable; and once having tasted, they will sacrifice any thing to obtain it.

In making the annual payment to them last year, I took the strictest precautions against this evil; and during the fourteen days that I was upon the payment ground, I saw but one single case of drunkenness among them. As I am greatly indebted to Lieutenant F. S. Mumford, of the United States army, the officer who assisted me on the occasion, permit me here to remark that to the prompt discharge of his duty, and to the vigilance and zeal with which he enforced the law regulating trade and intercourse with the Indians, and preventing the forcible taking away of their money by the traders after the payment, I may attribute the quiet and orderly conduct which prevailed throughout. Before quitting this subject, I respectfully call your attention to a subject I submitted in my

last annual report, and of which I still entertain a favorable opinion. I mean a system of suttling for the Indians similar to that of the army. If such a system were established, it would not only prevent, in a great measure, the introduction of whiskey among them, besides furnishing all their wants at reasonable prices, but would also do away with the annual collection of large sums of money, taken from the Indians at every payment by the traders, for whiskey. I am satisfied that at least one quarter of the annuity paid to the Menomonies is collected by the traders at the annuity payment for whiskey.

A new rule in regard to depredation claims was adopted, at my suggestion, at the last payment, and received the unanimous consent of the chiefs in council. The party claiming must establish his claim, by proof, upon the Indian charged with the offence; if this is fully established, his share of the annuity money is paid to satisfy the depredation committed. They seem well satisfied with the justice of this rule. Up to the present time, I have but one report for depredations, and that of a trifling nature.

The Menomonies make frequent reports to me that the Winnebagoes continue to hunt, make sugar, and to fish within their country. Twenty lodges of Winnebagoes, they say, wintered at the mouth of the Lemonware river, a stream putting into the Wisconsin river 7 or 8 miles above the Dalles, and from 35 to 40 miles from fort Winnebago by land. It seems to me that the only check that can be given to the inroads of the Winnebagoes into the Menomonie country, will be to station a company of dragoons at fort Winnebago.

The Menomonies generally cultivate but little land, and that in small patches. The labor is done by the women and children. They raise corn, beans, pumpkins, &c., &c. The men pass their time in hunting, fishing, &c., and collect the wild rice in its season, all of which gives them but a scanty subsistence.

Three chiefs have died within the last year; their loss to the nation will be severely felt by them.

In regard to schools, I have great hopes of establishing two, and at once, in the Menomonie country. I have received a letter from Bishop Henri, the Catholic Bishop of Wisconsin, dated August 10th, 1845, in which he informs me that he has selected two competent teachers, and will establish the schools on Lake Pwawgan as soon as the first of October instant,

The two blacksmiths, Messrs. Sylvester and Jourdain, are men of reputation and standing, strictly temperate, and have had long experience in their business. They have supplied all the wants of the Indians, in making new work, and in repairing their guns, traps, &c., &c., all of which gives them full employment. The shops have been well furnished with iron, steel, coal, &c., &c.

The Menomonie country is bounded as follows: S. W. by the Wisconsin river; N. E. by the Wolf river; S. E. by the Fox river; N. W. by the Chippewas of Lake Superior. A portion of their country comprises some of the best farming lands in northern Wisconsin. It is clothed in parts with the best kind of white and yellow pine timber. It is washed by three of the largest rivers in the Territory, and possessed of immense water power. The steamboat "Manchester" ascended the Wolf river in the fall of 1844, to the distance of about 120 miles, and found no want of water.

The Oneidas reside on the west side of the Fox river, about 9 miles from this sub-agency; they number about 720 souls; they are all farmers: they have adopted the manners and customs of the white man.

They have two churches, besides school-houses, mills, &c., &c. They live in goood comfortable frame and block houses, well adapted to this northern climate. Their farms are under good cultivation. They have raised this year fine crops of wheat, oats, corn, &c., &c., and will have a large surplus for sale. They furnish nearly all the steamboat wood, besides other fuel that is wanted by the citizens of Green Bay. In fine, they have all the comforts of life about them, and their land is equal to any in northern Wisconsin. Their settlement and improvements are not surpassed by any in this section of the Territory.

I have visited the Rev. Mr. Davis's school, among the Oneidas, and found it orderly and well attended. The scholars have made respectable improvement in reading, writing, and grammar. The Rev. Mr. Coleman was absent attending upon the yearly conference, and is not expected to return for several weeks; consequently there is a vacation in his school. The above two Rev. gentlemen reside among the Oneidas, upon their reservation. Duck creek is the principal stream that passes through their settlement.

About 100 of the Oneidas are desirous of emigrating South of the Missouri. This party, with few exceptions, is composed of emigrants from New York who have sold all their interest in their land in that State, and have emigrated to Green Bay within the last 3 or 4 years.

The chiefs of the old settlers here inform me that before they would consent to this party occupying their lands in this Territory, they caused them to enter into a written stipulation, which is on file in the Comptroller's office of the State of New York, that they should not have any right or claim to the lands in this Territory, nor should they in any way meddle or interfere in the national concerns.

If some provision could be made to remove those who wish to emigrate, it would have a happy effect with the old settlers, as the principal part of the (so called) Missouri party are more or less addicted to drunkenness.

D. JONES, *Indian Agent.*

HON. T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD.
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 11.

INDIAN SUB-AGENCY,
Green Bay, September 24, 1845.

MOST EXCELLENT SIR: Having entered on the duties of this sub-agency on the 18th instant, my annual report will necessarily be brief.

The Indians dependant on this agency are the *Oneidas* and the *Menomonies,* the Stockbridges and Brothertowns having by acts of Congress been *naturalized,* and their relations changed from *wards* of the government to citizens of the United States. A part of the first mentioned tribe (the Stockbridges) object to such change, and persist in styling themselves *Indians.* They will, however, it is to be presumed, finally yield to

the law, and, with the Brothertowns and the rest of their own brethren, become merged in the surrounding mass of citizens of the country.

The *Oneidas* occupy a reserve a few miles west of the town of Green Bay, of two townships (or 44,080 acres) of nearly first-rate land. They have occupied it since the year 1826. Their settlement is extensive, and presents a neat farm-like appearance. They number about 650 souls, and are in truth an agricultural people, spending but a small share of their time in the chase; and could they be pursuaded to become *temperate*, and to learn the *English* language, they would very soon be prepared to enter on the privileges and duties of citizenship.

A considerable portion of the tribe has for some time been desirous of emigrating to Missouri. If the late policy of the government, of collecting the scattered tribes and locating them south of the Missouri, is to be continued, I respectfully suggest that their wishes are worthy of attention.

Herewith I forward the annual report of the Rev. H. R. Coleman, teacher of a school under the patronage of the Methodist church, in this tribe.

No report has been furnished me by the Rev. Mr. Davis, of the school under his charge, though I am informed by my predecessor that "it was handed to him some days since, and by him sent direct to the honorable Commissioner of Indian Affairs."

The *Menomonies* are variously reported to number from 2,500 to 3,500 souls. I am unable now to state their true number; but after their annuity payment shall have been made, I shall be able to give it, as also to report a map of their country. Their boundary *on the west*, I apprehend, is not very well defined, and probably not very accurately known even by themselves. I learn that there has been, during the present season, an interruption to the public surveys, owing to some misunderstanding as to their western or southwestern boundary.

The greater portion of them live on their own lands, though some of them still linger on their old haunts along the shore of Fox river and Green bay; but they will, it is believed, soon be removed to their own land, without difficulty or delay. Their present territory embraces a great variety both of soil and climate, extending from the beautiful prairies on the Fox river, to the more rugged and mountainous regions between the waters of Lake Superior and those flowing into the Fox river and Green bay.

The southern part of their land is very desirable as a farming country; the northern portion equally so for its immense forest of pine timber, and (as is reported) for its minerals.

The Menomonies are making but indifferent advancement towards civilization. *Intemperance* holds its cruel sway over nearly the whole tribe; the chains being strengthened equally by their own appetites and the cupidity of the dealers in whiskey.

But a small portion of them give any attention to agriculture, and there is no *school* in the Menomonie country. This latter fact is deplorable. These poor people seem surrounded by influences operating to keep them in mental darkness. No benign effort of the government seems so necessary at present for their meliorationas that of establishing one or two good schools in their country. It is the policy of those of every grade who prey upon them to keep them in *ignorance*, and especially to prevent them from acquiring the English language. I hardly need attempt to set

forth the reasons for the *opposition* this object has met with hitherto, from white persons having influence over them; and to which influence may be referred the determination of the Menomonies, at the treaty of September 3, 1836, to relinquish all their right "under former treaties," to appropriations for education.

The capacity of the Indian youth of this tribe, as has been fully proved, is equal to that of any other for acquiring the knowledge of letters. Several full blood Menomonie children received respectable English education at the late Green Bay mission school of the Protestant Episcopal church.

I suggest here, respectfully, that there is an ample fund at the disposal of the President, which, it is believed, might be applied to this object, in connexion with that of agriculture. (Vide the last clause of the ratification article of the Cedar Point treaty of the 3d September, 1836.)

Before dismissing the subject of schools for the benefit of the Indian tribes, I beg leave respectfully to suggest, that this branch of our intercourse with them appears to me to be embarrassed with some very radical defects. No uniform system of teaching is adopted. The supervision by the government insures but little responsibility in the teachers, requiring the rendition of no certain specific duty before drawing payment; the consequence of which is that *frauds* are not unfrequently practised; money drawn for which little or no service has been *bona fide* rendered; and the Indians languish on, perishing for lack of knowledge. Specific services should be insisted on from teachers; and, above all, the English language (and not the Indian) should be required to be taught.

In what I have thus risked in relation to schools, I am by no means unaware of the fact that, to raise the Indian character, education must have a much wider scope than barely learning "to read, write, cipher," &c.; that, unless they are brought to a practical knowledge of all that distinguishes the savage from the civilized man, mere school education will be of little avail. It is nevertheless an indispensable prerequisite; and when combined, as it always should be, with instruction in agriculture and the mechanic arts, cannot fail of its effects, as well on savage as civilized youth, as before remarked.

A few of the Menomonies are *practical* farmers, living the whole year in the same place, on their own land, and deriving nearly their whole sustenance from the soil. This speaks a language, not to be misinterpreted, in proof of the theory that the Menomonies *can be civilized*. Their efforts are attracting the attention of others of the tribe.

The aid already opportunely extended by the government has been well received, and of great benefit. This encouragement should be continued. A school should be opened among them, and every inducement held out for their advancement. As a germ of future and permanent civilization of this tribe, I have great hope of their infant establishment; in fine, there is good reason to believe that the greater portion of the Menomonies, by judicious and persevering efforts on the part of the government, may be redeemed from their present state of degradation and vice, and placed within the pale of civilized and christianized men.

I have not, as yet, had time to make an examination of the blacksmith shops, &c., but will lose no time in doing so, after the annuity payments are through with; when I shall communicate such additional matter re-

lating to the general condition of this agency as may be deemed important.

I am, most excellent sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALBERT G. ELLIS,
Sub-agent.

To his Excellency HENRY DODGE,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs
in the Territory of Wisconsin.

No. 12.

MICHIGAN SUPERINTENDENCY,
Detroit, October 20, 1845.

SIR: In compliance with the regulations of the department, I respectfully submit the following report of the condition and affairs of the superintendency.

Since entering upon the duties of this office (2d May last) I have visited the several sub-agencies in this State, with those of La Pointe and Green Bay, within the Territory of Wisconsin, and have seen a large proportion of the Indians attached to and under charge of the same.

La Pointe sub-agency, Wisconsin, has under its care about 5,000 Indians of the Chippewa nation, who are scattered over a large extent of country bordering upon Lake Superior, and interior upon the head waters of the Mississippi. The agency is situated upon one of the group of the Apostle islands in Lake Superior, and is visited annually by the Indians, who there receive the annuity, goods, and provisions, furnished them by the government under treaty stipulations. It is desirable that some plan should be adopted whereby the distribution of the amount you furnished in goods may be more equitably and satisfactorily made. For instance, an article furnished which may be very useful to those Indians resident along the lake coast, and who are much employed in fishing, would be useless and unwelcome to those situated interior, and who are engaged in hunting or agriculture. This was the case with the items of lines and twines, which, I am informed, were disposed of by the Indians not so situated as to have use for those articles, at a very great sacrifice. A few only of these have turned their attention decidedly and actively to objects connected with their improvement and civilization; those few, however, give to my mind the strongest evidences of the feasibility of this great object, whenever the necessary means and efforts are properly applied for its accomplishment. A portion of the country occupied by them is poorly adapted to purposes of agriculture. Some are located favorably for hunting, whilst those upon the coast are dependant mostly on the fisheries for support.

The great value of this region of country consists in its fisheries and minerals. Since the treaty of 1842, public attention has been directed to the examination of the country lying around the southern shore of the lake, and very valuable discoveries have been made.

A large amount of capital is already engaged in working the mines, with every promise of success, and the spirit of enterprise and speculation

is extending the examination to the northern coast, which is described to be of equal, if not greater value, and to which the Indian title is as yet unextinguished. It is doubtless the policy of the government to negotiate for the country lying upon the lake between the St. Louis river and the British boundary. It would thus settle the title to the entire lake coast within our boundary; it would be brought under the usual regulations, and many difficulties which are anticipated would be avoided.

I learned there was manifested a willingness and a desire on the part of the Indians to treat in reference to this district; and where that is expressed, and the interests of our country warrant and demand it, no objection can exist to its consummation. The line of boundary which divides the two countries is not generally understood, and questions, I am informed, have already arisen as to the exact point on the coast. The definite adjustment of this point is considered wisdom, and its recognition by the establishment of a military post may be important.

The Green Bay sub-agency includes, with the Menomonies, some of the Oneidas, Stockbridges, and Brothertown Indians, from New York. These last have made great advancement in the work of civilization, and their progress has been such as to give the most flattering encouragement to the government and those engaged in their improvement to persevere in the work attempted, and their example must stimulate others of their tribe to do likewise.

The means appropriated and the preparations being made to establish schools among the Menomonies is such, I understand, as to warrant us in the belief that the same results will be soon manifested among them.

The Indians under the St. Marie agency are unfavorably located for agriculture or hunting; their principal resource is from fishing. They have been much troubled in regard to their rights under the 3d article of treaty of 16th June, 1820, which contemplated certain reservations for their benefit, and which were confirmed and recognised in 3d article of treaty of 1836. Encroachments have been made by the whites, and settlements made on what the Indians claim to be *their* ground; and although the question has been presented to the agency in various forms, it has always, I believe, refused permission to any person to cultivate or build upon said reservation.

The reservation as claimed covers most of the route of the proposed canal, includes the present landing and store-houses at the head of the rapids, and extends along the whole length thereof.

Questions are constantly arising, and difficulties of serious aspect may grow out of this unsettled question of occupancy. The great increase of business upon Lake Superior, all of which must pass through this avenue, renders its position of importance to the commercial interest of the country, as well as every other connected with the northern navigation. And I do most earnestly and respectfully present this subject, with that of the title to the country on the north coast of Lake Superior, to the consideration of the department, as the most important questions connected with this superintendency which have come under my observation.

The condition of the Indians attached to the Mackinac agency presents the most flattering and encouraging prospects for their improvement, and of their being capable at no very distant period of appreciating and enjoying the privileges of citizenship.

Through the influence of their missionaries, teachers, and others placed

among them by the government, they have become comparatively temperate; many have purchased lands and made improvements thereon; and others, stimulated by their example and advancement, are preparing to do likewise.

The great drawback to their settlement and happiness appears to arise from a dread of removal west; and such is their anxiety upon this point that frequent allusions are made to it by them, and an earnest desire expressed that a positive assurance should be given them by the President upon this head. They would then be encouraged to greater zeal in their efforts to purchase land, make improvements and educate their children, and endeavor to make themselves and their posterity fit subjects for the full enjoyment of all our civil and religious privileges.

It is gratifying to learn that the Saginaw band of Chippewas have made great improvements in their condition, having reformed in their habits and turned their attention actively to the cultivation of their lands, and listening with attention to religious instruction. I respectfully refer you to the report of A. T. McReynolds, the sub-agent, which will exhibit more fully the condition of those Indians.

The remnant of the Black river and Swan creek Indians yet in Michigan have selected a spot and made a settlement, and are now in a fair way to become prosperous and civilized.

The Pottawatomies of Huron, though few in number, are well situated, and the amount of their annuities, when paid, will place them in a very promising condition. Some of the Pottawatomies of Indiana presented themselves at payment, and asked to be placed upon the rolls. It seems they went west; but being dissatisfied, many of them returned, and, as was represented to me, about 100 have settled in Marshall county, Indiana. They ask that their proportion of money may be retained from the amount sent west, and paid them here. During the general panic produced by the forcible removal of the Indians attempted in 1840, many of them fled to Canada, and some of them are yearly returning; quite a number have applied for pay this year, who state their determination to remain on this side, if not required by our government to go west. These people have strong attachment to the land of their fathers; and if permitted to settle and remain permanently upon locations of their own choice and purchase, they will be encouraged by kindness, and by a proper use of the means applicable for their improvement, to meet the most sanguine expectations of those interested in their welfare.

The labors of the missionaries and teachers among the Indians are perplexing and trying indeed; but, with a perseverance, patience, and industry, under all the trials and discouragements by which they are surrounded, truly laudable and creditable to themselves and the cause, they have overcome great obstacles, and produced a reformation and advancement in the condition and prospects of the Indians really astonishing. Under the influence of their example and precept, the use of ardent spirits is fast being abolished by them, and the cheering hope is before the Christian and philanthropist that at no distant period, by the efforts of the good and wise, the influence of religious and civil instruction will result to the improvement of the red man, and that when surrounded by all the blessings of civilization, we shall see them a prosperous and happy people.

I have the honor to transmit herewith, for the examination of the department, the following reports, viz :

No. 1. Report of James Ord, sub-agent at Sault St. Marie.

No. 2. Report of Andrew T. McReynolds, sub-agent at Saginaw.

No. 3. Report of Bishop P. P. Lefevre—Roman Catholic missions and schools under his charge.

No. 4. Report of Right Reverend Samuel A. McKoskry—Protestant Episcopal mission and school under his charge.

No. 5. Report of Rev. Leonard Slater—Baptist mission and school, Ottowa colony.

No. 6. Report of Rev. A. Bingham—Baptist mission and school, Sault St. Marie.

No. 7. Report of Rev. W. H. Brockway—Methodist mission and school at Sault St. Marie.

No. 8. Report of Rev. George N. Smith—Congregational mission and school, "Old Wing," L. M.

No. 9. Report of Rev. Peter Dougherty—Presbyterian mission and school, Grand Traverse.

No. 10. A list of all persons in the employ of the Indian department within this superintendency, with the place of their birth, &c.

This communication and the transmission of my accounts for the quarter have been delayed in consequence of my anxiety to complete the payments, and close the business, as far as practicable, before rendering my accounts for the quarter.

I am, respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM A. RICHMOND,
Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs.

HON. T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, War Department.

No. 13.

OFFICE SAGINAW SUB-AGENCY,
Detroit, October 5, 1845.

SIR : I have the pleasure, in this my annual report of the condition of my sub-agency, to inform you of the growing prosperity and improved condition of the Indians under my charge. I have just completed the annual payment under treaty stipulations. The usual supplies of provisions have been distributed, and such articles as I deemed necessary and desirable to promote the agricultural branch of this department for the ensuing year have been supplied. Notwithstanding the flattering condition of the Indians as represented in my last annual report, I rejoice to be able to say that the progress of their advancement increases in a highly satisfactory degree, and I believe it to be based upon the only sure foundation to which we may with confidence look for its permanency—the principles of civilization, tempered with religious sentiments, which many of them have to a great extent imbibed,—the interesting change which has been produced on these heretofore benighted people, under the guidance of my predecessor; and its onward progress is truly gratifying ; and the effects

as indicated, not only by their conduct and appearance but also upon their minds, is a subject of general remark. One very striking evidence of this change is to be found in the character of the topics they introduce and discuss in council. At the council just closed they boldly took the ground that they have the right to be consulted in all matters touching their relations with the government; that all appointees to office, &c., in immediate connexion with them, should be selected by the government *only* on their representation, or at their request. While urging this consideration, they expressed the wish that the individuals now in office *under* my sub-agency should be retained, with the exception of the interpreter; in which case they strenuously urged the appointment as interpreter of Mr. Charles Rod, who is an active and intelligent half-breed—said to be very honest, faithful, and capable—in the place of Mr. Gardner Williams, the present incumbent; *in which recommendation I concur.* Also, in the case of Mr. James Fraser, I deem it to be my duty to report, they were very desirous that he should be continued in the office of overseer of farming, which department has been filled by him for four years with entire satisfaction to them, and to my satisfaction since I became the sub-agent. They also again urged the application of moneys stipulated in their treaty to be paid for the purposes of education, the nature and position of which I explained to them. Indeed, such is the effect of the change which their improved condition has produced, that money received by them at their annual payment, which, years gone by, was so employed as to make it an evil rather than a benefit, is now in a great majority of cases expended in the purchase of lands and other items of substantial usefulness. The blacksmith shop is well supplied with the materials necessary for the coming year, and implements of husbandry and articles necessary for the finish of their houses, such as nails and glass, I have also to a limited extent this year distributed amongst them as judiciously as I could; believing, as I do, that it is the best possible use to which the agricultural fund can be in part applied; promoting, as it cannot fail to do, their progress in that art which is not only useful to them through the means of the products of the soil, but also has a salutary effect on their habits of industry and frugality. The Indians seem satisfied with the government, and renew expressions of fidelity to the country, and approval of the course of treatment which they receive. While attending the payment, they held regularly religious meetings. Preachers have sprung up amongst themselves, and intemperance has received a decided check; and I look forward to the time—and that at no very distant day—when they will become an acquisition to that section of the country which has so long been the theatre of their barbarity, and the exhibition of those vices peculiar to their natures.

I am, very respecfully, your obedient servant,

ANDREW T. McREYNOLDS,

Acting Sub-agent, &c., &c., &c.

WILLIAM A. RICHMOND, Esq.,

Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs for Michigan.

No. 14.

SAULT ST. MARIE, MICHIGAN,
September 20, 1845.

SIR: The condition of the Indians within this sub-agency, during the past year, affords the prospect of improvement, unless to those who are located at the Sault village; a greater disposition to have their children instructed prevails amongst many; instances of intoxication less frequent. A desire to increase their efforts to provide for their subsistence, and dwell in houses instead of lodges, is apparent. Notwithstanding, all the aid of the government and labors of the missionaries will avail them little so long as they remain among the increasing white population.

In the spring and summer, frequent cases of measles and mumps occurred in families abiding at and near the Sault.

At the request of the chiefs and head men in council, I purchased for them a yoke of oxen, cart, and yoke, and four new Mackinaw boats (each capable of holding 20 barrels) with sails. These articles are in frequent use, and from them they have derived much advantage. Their visits to the Sault are of less duration than in previous years, and they are to be found, when not on their hunts, at their different stations and fishing places. They maintain a friendly intercourse with the citizens, and not an instance of a breach of the peace has happened on their part. From the sales of the fish caught last fall and spring, they have realized more than heretofore during the same time in former seasons. Their hunts have not been so profitable.

The mission school at the Sault St. Marie, under the direction of the Rev. Abel Bingham, presents no greater degree of improvement than heretofore, notwithstanding his exertions for its welfare.

The mission at the Little Rapids, under the superintendence of the Rev. Wm. H. Brockway, is considerably improved. The children at the school are carefully instructed, well fed and clothed, and appear cheerful and contented. Of the land attached to the mission, about 100 acres are cleared and about fifty under cultivation; for the improvement and cultivation of which, the Indian adults attached to the mission are by it employed and paid.

The Catholic and the Methodist mission schools at the Anse Kewewenon are represented to be in a prosperous condition. The former is stated to have 65 scholars, taught by the Rev. F. Baraga, from whom no report has yet been received. The latter is kept by Peter Marksman, a native; during the winter it numbered 26 scholars. In July, there were in attendance 21, of whom 12 are boys and 9 girls. Of these, 15 are Indians and 6 are half-breeds. They are taught in spelling and writing in English, and to read in their own language. The Rev. J. H. Pitezel has charge of the mission.

The Indian reserve at the falls of the Sault St. Marie has been frequently mentioned by the chiefs in council. They have complained that they are in danger of being crowded off by the white people. In 1837, I found three half-breeds living on it. There are, besides these, at present two white persons on it, against whom the Indians have made complaints; both have been notified to leave, and reported to your predecessor. Unless early measures be adopted to remove trespassers, the whole of this

reservation will be occupied to the prejudice of the Indians, and its water privileges, so valuable and extensive, will be in the possession of individuals.

In 1843, the Indians who visited the British present ground were told, at the time of distribution, that from that year no more presents were to be made to American Indians. This year, all who went from the United States were offered and received presents. No Indians went by this route from the upper lakes. Those of the Esconabe band from the Esconabe river, who are as often on the Canada side as on our side, were at the Manitoulins, and got presents; they consist of about eight families. From the Sault three families and four individuals were at the Manitoulins. Attempts, through chiefs and other leading Indians on the Canada side of the Sault, have been repeatedly made to induce Indians to go over and live under the British government.

The blacksmith at the Anse Kewewenon has been engaged in supplying the Indians with the necessary articles for their use, under the treaty of 1842, at La Pointe.

The carpenter has assisted in getting out logs and lumber for houses, in making sashes, doors, and flooring, and in erecting houses.

In May last the stable under the charge of the farmer was destroyed by fire; one of the oxen burnt to death—the other so much injured as to be unfit for service.

The carpenter whom you directed to this place from Mackinac has been constantly engaged in repairing and putting up houses. Four have been erected at Taquonenon for Indians. He has been subsequently employed in assisting those at the Little Rapids to get their houses in a fit condition for the winter. His services have been of considerable benefit to the Indians during the season.

With great respect, your most obedient servant,

JAMES ORD.

To Wm. A. Richmond, Esq.,
Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs, Detroit, Michigan.

No. 15.

Choctaw Agency,
September 30, 1845.

Sir: One of the principal events that has occurred in the western superintendency during the past year, is the arrival of 1,200 Choctaws from Mississippi, being a portion of those who remained in their former country after its cession. Apprehensions were expressed in my last report that the provision in the treaty of cession excluding those who might thus remain from all future participation in the annuities, might create dissension between the new comers and their western brethren. Fortunately, Congress, by directing the investment of one-half of all that may be due the Mississippi Choctaws for reservations, has secured them an income sufficient to place them on an equal footing with the rest of the tribe. So far, those who have emigrated appear to be entirely satisfied with their new location. Many of them have expressed great gratification at the signs of improvement everywhere visible among the Choctaws west, and

a few have offered to return to Mississippi for the purpose of undeceiving their brethren in regard to the character of the country, concerning which considerable misapprehension exists; the grossest misstatements having been industriously circulated among them. With the settlement of their land claims, which will probably be effected this fall, the motive for deception will cease, and I am induced to hope that the contemplated project to complete the emigration of the remainder before the close of this year will be successful.

Considerable excitement has existed of late among the Chickasaws. This tribe, you are aware, is partially incorporated with the Choctaws, and constitutes one of the four districts composing the Choctaw nation; though in point of fact comparatively few of them live in the particular tract styled the "Chickasaw district." The great majority, availing themselves of a right secured by treaty, reside in different parts of the three Choctaw districts. The chief and other officers of the district government, including delegates of the "General Council" of both tribes, are required by law to live within its limits. These officers, all of whom are elected for stated periods by the people, are of course regarded by the agents of the government, in the payment of annuities or the transaction of other necessary business, as the proper representatives of the tribe. An attempt was recently made to restore the old and long since abandoned system of governing by hereditary chiefs, and to throw the whole power of the tribe into the hands of two or three of the most ignorant of its members. The real object, as it subsequently appeared, was to benefit a few designing persons by securing to them, through the agency of nominal rulers, the control of the large revenues derived from the Chickasaw fund. The effort was sustained by a decided majority, consisting generally of those living out of the district, induced mainly by their jealousy of the district officers, and their prejudices in favor of Indian customs, as well as a variety of minor causes unnecessary here to specify. A regular government was organized. The former king, or head chief, an uneducated Indian of inferior capacity, was placed at its head, with another Indian of like character for his assistant or "disbursing chief." To this latter person I was requested to pay the annuity for 1845.

On the other hand, it was objected that such a course would be contrary to regulations established by the whole tribe voluntarily, and never rescinded; that the parties advocating it were the dupes of traders, who were the real authors of the measure; and that it would clothe the majority with too great a degree of power over the undoubted rights of the minority.

Under these circumstances, considering the regularly constituted authorities from whom the remonstrance came as the representatives of the tribe, in the absence of any proper evidence to the contrary, I caused the money to be paid in the usual manner—distributively to individuals, share and share alike; conceiving that no substantial injustice could be done by securing to each one the portion due him, but that great evil might, and probably would, result from the course deprecated by the minority—a minority falling but little short of its opponents numerically, and greatly surpassing them in point of intelligence.

As might be expected, the division of the money proved satisfactory to the great majority of all parties; still, the previous contest had given rise to much ill feeling. Two of the rival leaders attacked each other during the payment. It was with the utmost difficulty that I succeeded

in separating them, and preventing a general row, which, if it had occurred, must have led to fatal results.

I have considered these details as not inappropriate, in a general view of the state of Indian affairs in this superintendency, as it serves to illustrate one of the evils resulting from large annuities. It is due to the Chickasaws to state, that, in other respects, the impressions produced by my recent visit among them were highly favorable; a statement made the more cheerfully, as some injustice was unintentionally done them in my last report.

For nearly two hundred miles on the main travelled road from Missouri and northwestern Arkansas to the northern and northwestern sections of Texas. emigrants and travellers depend entirely for subsistence and forage upon Indians of this tribe, generally of the full blood. Their cabins, usually constructed by themselves, are generally sheltered by shade trees, and in situations chosen with a degree of taste and a regard for comfort not always found among frontier settlers. At several of their houses I saw looms and spinning-wheels of their own manufacture, some of them made by self-taught mechanics.

At the annuity payment, which the whole tribe, with very few exceptions, attended, they were neatly dressed, and made a very creditable appearance—as much so as any collection of Indians I have ever seen. It has been remarked of them that they spend less of their money at the pay ground than is usual among Indians, reserving it for their future wants and requirements.

A vexed and perplexing question was happily settled by the treaty made with the Creeks and Seminoles in January last. Large numbers of the Seminoles (chiefly the more hostile of the recent emigrants) had, without any authority or right, settled among the Cherokees, to whom they were exceedingly troublesome, on account of their marauding habits and destitute condition. The country provided for them, some years since, had been appropriated to the upper Creeks at a time when it was considered important to separate that band from their former antagonists of the lower towns. This disposition of what they regarded as their own territory, together with their reluctance to subject themselves and their property to the Creek laws, led the Seminoles to object, and at one time to refuse positively, to settle in any part of the Creek country. The Creeks, in their turn, objected that since they first consented to receive the Seminoles, the circumstances of that tribe had materially changed. That the war in which they had been so long engaged in Florida had engendered a turbulent and predatory spirit, likely to make them troublesome neighbors, and moreover that they had never been compensated for the tract promised the Seminoles.

These difficulties were all reconciled by securing to the Seminoles a full representation in the Creek government, with the right of appeal to the President in certain cases of disputed titles to property; giving them an unrestricted right of settlement upon all Creek lands otherwise unappropriated; indemnifying them for various losses in Florida; and, what was of most consequence, subsisting them for six months. At the same time the Creeks were conciliated by a liberal provision for the education of their children.

The great body of the Seminoles have removed to the waters of Little

river, a stream emptying into the Canadian, a hundred miles above its mouth. So far, the accounts from them have been favorable. They have, in many instances, procured stock animals in exchange for the beef issued as part of their rations under the treaty; are erecting cabins, and preparing to make fields in time to plant corn in the spring.

A quantity of agricultural implements provided by the treaty in payments for horses, &c. lost in Florida, will be furnished during the winter. Their country is, in many respects, well suited to their wants, and upon the whole they are in a fair way to do well.

Very full information in regard to the present condition of the Creeks will be found in the report of their agent, herewith transmitted. I am not aware that any thing connected with their affairs requires particular notice at this time, further than the position they occupy with regard to the prairie Indians.

To secure greater facilities for stock-raising purposes, the Creeks have for many years past been gradually extending their settlements back from their first locations, near the mouth of the Verdigris and Grand river, until they have reached the Cross Timbers, encroaching upon territory which the wild tribes of the prairie have regarded as exclusively their own, and subjecting themselves to serious annoyance in consequence. Repeated incursions have been made, chiefly by parties of Pawnees from the Platte—it is supposed for horse stealing purposes. These parties were in every instance driven back, generally with loss; several of their number were killed by the Creeks and the neighboring bands of Kickapoos and Quapaws. Although the settlers incurred but little real danger, great alarm was felt even as far down as the mouth of the Verdigris. Application was made to the officers commanding at Fort Gibson and Washita for assistance, and parties were detached for their relief.

The establishment of a garrison at Chouteau's trading house, an abandoned post 50 or 60 miles beyond the mouth of Little river, was talked of; a measure clearly unnecessary, as sufficient protection will always be afforded to the frontier settlements by the various hunting parties of Shawnees, Delawares, Kickapoos, Miamies, Quapaws, and Caddoes.

These parties, residing chiefly on the waters of the Canadian, but scattered over the whole region lying west of its mouth, and between the Arkansas and Red river, are attached to no agency, have no connexion with the government, and but little intercourse with the tribes to which they properly belong. As they differ in many respects from the other Indians in the superintendency, and exercise a peculiar influence upon border affairs, a brief notice of them may not be amiss.

The Delawares and Shawnees are mainly of what is called the Cape Girardeau band, of which the greater part emigrated many years since, after the treaty of Caster Hill, from southwestern Missouri to the country assigned their respective tribes on the Kanzas river. The remainder went to Texas—were driven back by the Texans to the Choctaw territory on Washita and Blue rivers, whence they were again removed by the United States troops at the request of the Choctaw authorities. They finally settled, by permission of the Creeks, on the north bank of the Canadian, where the greater part of them now live. They are in a semi-barbarous state, and entirely uneducated, but show great shrewdness and intelligence in their intercourse with the whites. As hunters and warri-

ors they have a higher reputation than any other Indians on the frontier. They bring in large quantities of peltries, but are not entirely dependant upon the chase. They raise an abundance of corn, and own large herds of cattle. Some of them carry on a regular trade with the Camanches and the Spanish settlements; getting mules from the former, and specie from the latter, in exchange for various articles of traffic, chiefly domestics and calicoes. For this purpose and in pursuit of game, they traverse the prairies in every direction in small parties, their character for superior courage and sagacity being so well established that the wild tribes seldom venture to attack them.

The Kickapoos, together with several parties of Miamie, better known as Piankeshaws and Peorias, left their homes on the Missouri some seven or eight years ago under a chief called the Kickapoo prophet. They are quite as daring as the Shawnees and Delawares, and as successful in hunting, to which they devote themselves exclusively, but in other respects far inferior.

They are much less intelligent, have not the same faculty of acquiring and taking care of property, and are altogether more savage in appearance and mode of life. In some cases they have been known to eat the bodies of enemies killed in battle. As they derive their subsistence wholly from the chase, they are compelled, notwithstanding their ferocity, to remain on good terms with the wild Indians on whose land they hunt, and with the settlements from which they procure ammunition. Accordingly when in June last a Pawnee was killed by one of their warriors, they first devoured his remains and then despatched two delegations—one to negotiate a peace with the Pawnees at their villages on the Platte, the other to my residence and to Fort Smith—for the purpose of assuring the officers of the government of their pacific intentions.

The Quapaw tribe exchanged their lands in Arkansas for the right to settle among the Caddoes, in Louisiana. The country did not suit them, and they did not harmonize very well with the Caddoes. Some of them wandered back to their former homes, and were provided with other lands on the Neosho—the rest have wandered over the prairies since, without any settled habitations, though their principal encampment is near the Kickapoo towns on the Canadian. They are exceedingly poor, less ferocious than the Kickapoos, and more inclined to work, but are regarded as good hunters and brave men. Though, for the same reasons that influence the Kickapoos, they are averse to war, they have brought in several scalps during the past winter and spring.

The Caddoes, unlike the other bands mentioned, have no regular homes of their own. A few of them have settled among the Choctaws by permission of that tribe. These endeavor to support themselves by labor; the rest, like the Kickapoos, depend on the chase, and lead a wandering life.

It is estimated that these various bands together muster among them a thousand fighting men, who form at once the barrier and the only channel of communication between the border tribes and the Camanches and other wild Indians south of the Arkansas. Through them the Creeks have made efforts to induce these tribes to meet them in council, hitherto without success. It was expected that an invitation sent during the summer to hold a general council at the Salt Plains would be accepted. There can

be no doubt that the extension of the settlements and consequent destruction and scarcity of game have created a hostile feeling, which it is desirable to remove. The Creeks have, at considerable expense, taken great pains to conciliate the prairie tribes, and in my opinion their efforts should be encouraged and assisted by the government.

For an account of the different bands in the Neosho sub-agency, I refer to the report of the sub-agent, which I regret is not so favorable as former reports have been.

In regard to the Cherokees, I am unable to communicate any further information than has already been given on former occasions.

Their affairs are still in an unsettled state. The party feelings which have so long divided them, far from subsiding, appear rather to increase in violence. A number of the "treaty party" have lately gone to the northwestern section of Texas, for the purpose of exploring the country, with a view to their ultimate emigration and separation from the rest of the tribe. The result of this expedition will doubtless have a material bearing on the final settlement of the Cherokee question.

In conclusion, it gives me great pleasure to be able to state that I have the utmost confidence in the fidelity of the different tribes in this superintendency, and that, in my opinion, the government could safely rely upon them as efficient allies in the event of a rupture with any foreign power.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant.

WM. ARMSTRONG,
Acting Superintendent, &c.

T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD, Esq.,
Commissioner Indian Affairs.

No. 16.

With the expiration of my term of office, near the end of the official year, I deem it proper to make an exhibit of what is, and has been, the condition of the Cherokee nation for the last twelve months. In so doing, I find it difficult to speak of them in the general association of Indians—a term comprehending, in its signification, a class at once rude, uncultivated, wild, and illiterate. There are many marked traits and shades of character, by which the Cherokees are to be separated and distinguished from the many and distinct tribes constituting the aborigines of the country, and many of which are now the inhabitants of our western frontier.

The Cherokees *en masse*, as a people, are justly entitled to the attributes of morality and intelligence—a palm awarded by those with whom they are most intimately associated, and by such as have been observant of or acquainted with the tone and complexion of their institutions. Among the various causes which have contributed to their advancement and elevation of character, considered in connexion with the congeniality of their minds and predisposition to improvement, I would especially mention the introduction of civil pursuits, which seem to prepare them for, and generate an ever-growing desire for intellectual improvement.

Schools.—The first statistical information to be given relates to the condition of their schools. There is a conspicuous demonstration of an

impulse towards, and an increased spirit for education, as is fully manifested by the superintendent's report; but more particularly by the number of private schools and the demand for private teachers. Their mental faculties are no longer dormant and motionless; they seem to have awakened to a sense of the importance of education, whereby a direction is to be given to their affections, a powerful and abiding influence exerted upon the desires of their hearts, and, by means of which, a strict observance of their moral duties is being successfully inculcated. Nor is the sphere narrow within which this spirit operates. It pervades the whole nation, and each individual feels a praiseworthy emulation in preparing himself for the duties he is destined to fulfil, that he may act his part on the theatre of life with dignity and honor, so as to become an ornament to the name he bears and a useful member of society. Their zeal in this matter is the very soul and source of their progress towards civilization, and is the chief element and promise of their prosperity and success. In evidence of the advantage arising from this spirit, and as a proof indisputable of their most decided advancement towards civilization and refinement, and as an instance when the partially developed faculties of their minds have risen superior to the influence of early and long cherished associations, I would mention their change of sentiments relative to females, and the now high and exalted estimate of female character, disclosed by the countenance and encouragement given to her cultivation, and the many opportunities afforded her of improvement; being regarded no longer as a slave—as personal property—but as a friend and companion. This change in the condition of the women manifests itself in their manners, dress, and general deportment. Under this head, I take great pleasure in making mention of a school taught at the seat of government by Miss Mary Hoyt, a native Cherokee, and which will bear comparison with any institution of like character west of the Mississippi river. Miss Hoyt is the grand-daughter of the venerable Major Lowrey, second chief of the nation. In acquirement, lady like deportment, and capacity for government, she has few, if any, superiors; and whilst I feel the sincerest sympathy with every thing that concerns the Cherokee people, and honor and applaud their exertions in endeavoring to throw off the shackles and fetters of ignorance, I would join my praises with the commendations of those who are most interested in her school, and whose dearest hopes are comprehended within the wish that the impress of her own character may be made on the minds of her pupils.

I have called upon the district judges and upon James M. Payne, the superintendent, whose reports will afford a full and accurate statement of the condition of the schools, both public and private, together with their location, the number and ages of the scholars, names of the teachers, and the amount of their salaries. As yet I have received returns from only three districts; these three show an average of three hundred and forty-seven scholars. Assuming that the other five, not heard from, will bear a proportion to the three above-mentioned, there will be about nine hundred in all. I am in hopes these reports will arrive in time to be forwarded together with this; in the mean time I supply the best means of information in my power.

Churches.—The report hereunto subjoined will exhibit the number of churches, and members. Herein their improvement is very observable;

but with a single remark, that they more readily receive moral instruction from their own race than from the whites, which is especially indicated by the increased numbers of native preachers. This is a fact owing not to any doctrinal differences derived from or existing in their religious creeds, but either to their characteristic jealousy of the whites, or to some innocent partiality or preference for a native divine, whose injunctions they more implicitly obey, and whose example they more readily follow. I regard the present members of the Missionary Society among the Cherokees as pre-eminently calculated for the pursuit in which they are now engaged. With a modesty equalled only by their piety, they are ever ready and willing to utter the praises of their *Maker* in the wilderness, when they are invited. The Cherokees are a people jealous of their dues and privileges, and any usurpation or infringement thereof is met by their signal displeasure; whilst every request or tender of service, when accompanied, according to their estimation, with proper etiquette and formality, is duly received with dignity and politeness. And whilst they thus scrupulously reject every thing that savors of intrusion, their desire for instruction peculiarly prepares their minds for its reception. These missionaries are of great worth and usefulness in educating and instructing, from among the youth of the nation, teachers, both male and female. At the same time that they are inculcating sentiments of religion, imparting moral instruction, and impressing religious truths on the minds of those who are associated with them, they exhibit in their lives an elevated purity and virtue delightful to behold.

Temperance.—This has been a God-send to the Cherokee nation. Its progress has been marked by a successful suppression of vice, and a happy subjugation of the turbulent and depraved passions. The number of members is, as will be seen, about 2,700—a larger proportion of the whole people than can be found in any other of equal extent of population. Private associations among themselves, of a similar character, produce a like effect, working, perhaps, a more lasting and permanent reformation, from the fact that they pride themselves upon their undeviating adherence to a promise, and their fidelity to this pledge. The saving influence of this society shows itself not only in the voluntary abstinence from the use of spirits, but also in their manifest demonstration of an intention to prevent its importation into their country. From my observation, and acquaintance with the Indian tribes, I am decidedly of opinion that all restrictive laws or arbitrary action by superior power is productive of evil consequences. I likewise concur in the suggestion that, as far as these people are concerned, a suspension of the *non-intercourse* law would be productive of every good—a matter which has been tested and satisfactorily proved by experience, when it was ascertained that as little or less liquor was introduced during its suspension than there was under its operation, and owing not so much to a lack of means wherewith to purchase as to a want of inclination. The effect of the present law is to introduce, by stealth, liquors of a bad quality, and at exorbitant prices, whilst the consumption is induced by frolics in a spirit and temper in proportion to the efforts made to restrain the inclination.

The experiment is now being made of allowing the sutlers to sell to the garrison, which I approve of, and believe will result in a correction of this evil.

Agriculture.—In the history of every country we find that the limit to which agriculture has been carried, and extent to which it may have been followed by any people, have been used as a means of estimating their standard of civilization; and speaking of the Cherokees, it affords the undersigned marked satisfaction to refer to their manifest improvement under this head. In evidence thereof, they established a native Agricultural Society; they have many of the luxuries of life, neat farms, abundance of cleared land, a good system of cultivation, whilst great care and rivalry are evinced in the improvement of their stock, cattle, horses, hogs, and sheep. Their soil is highly productive, well adapted for grazing, yielding them an ample support at but little cost; and with an easy subsistence thus gained, they enjoy all the comforts and necessaries of life.

There is a great demand for blacksmith's work, tools, implements, &c., appertaining to their industrial pursuits. The Cherokees display great mechanical talent; many, even most of the farmers, are capable of stocking their own ploughs, helving their own hoes, and making gates and doors to their dwellings.

Female industry.—Under this head I make a recapitulation of the facts contained in my preceding report, whilst I remark anew upon the lively zeal and active industry of the women of the nation, whom it would be derelict in me to leave unnoticed. They are no less contributors to the progressive social condition of their people than are the men; they are fond of spinning and weaving, and manifest great ingenuity in the manufacture of domestic cloth, (a specimen of which I herewith send you.) It is a pleasing spectacle, and a subject of great gratulation to the friends of these people, to witness, on a Sabbath, the father, mother, and children clad in the products of their own labor; the material is well manufactured, and in the selection, variety, and arrangement of the colors, they exhibit great taste and skill.

Printing press.—This by no means has failed to render the advantages it seemed to promise, and which were so confidently anticipated. This press has been chiefly instrumental in placing the Cherokees one-half a century in advance of their late condition; providing an easy and cheap mode of diffusing instruction among the people, and stimulating them to further exertion and improvement. The paper is edited with ability by W. P. Ross, (a native Cherokee) and will bear an honorable comparison with those of the United States; it is issued weekly, and is printed one-half in English, the other half in Cherokee; it is extensively circulated in and out of the territory, and is exclusively the channel in communicating all public matters to the nation. The editor is a young man of education, a graduate of Princeton College, New Jersey, and of a conspicuously moral character: the compliments everywhere paid to his paper are the best proofs of his merit. It is an object that cannot fail to strike the heart of the philanthropist with peculiar emotion to be in the neighborhood of the press on the day the paper is struck off, and witness the eagerness with which it is sought after, particularly by the more ignorant class, who neither speak nor read the English language, but who acquire their own alphabet in twenty-four hours. Two or three of the Cherokee columns are occupied with portions of Peter Parley's travels, which they read and enjoy with much zest. There are but few of the Cherokees who do not understand and speak our language; probably there are as many as one-third who speak, exclusively, the Cherokee.

As being intimately connected with this press, the most honorable mention must be made of George Guess, a native Cherokee—the inventor of the Cherokee alphabet—the genius of his race—the Cadmus of the age. In 1843 he left his home for Mexico, in quest of the scattered bands of the Cherokees, whom he had intended collecting together, and inducing to return with him to the nation. Death, however, defeated his object, and his remains now lie at San Fernando, in New Mexico, where he died in July, 1844. To the honor of the nation be it told, that they are in no wise insensible to the importance of his invention, and they have granted an annuity of $100 to his widow. I cannot suffer this opportunity to escape me of paying my tribute of respect to the head and heart of the honorable secretary, William Wilkins, whose philanthropic spirit prompted him to instruct the agent, and supply him with the means of sending a special messenger in search of this benefactor of his race; the result of which mission was but to learn the sad intelligence of his death, and the place of his interment.

Public shops.—As has been stated in reports, the treaty provided for four public smith shops for one year. These have been converted into eight for six months—one for each district. They are in every instance worked by native Cherokees, or citizens by marriage. They have been well and prosperously conducted for the last year, and have been productive of great good and benefit to the poor, for whose advantage they were exclusively designed.

Exclusive of the public shops, there are many others in the nation belonging to private individuals, and which are a source of very considerable emolument to the owners. In addition to the establishment of blacksmiths' shops, a like munificence and liberality of spirit have been practised by the government for the encouragement of female labor. There are four hundred spinning-wheels manufactured at the public expense and issued annually, one-half of which are made by a Cherokee, and are of very good workmanship.

Seminoles.—That portion of the Seminole tribe emigrants from Florida, and who have for the last two or three years been within the Cherokee territory, have at last, all but a few roving bands, been removed to their own soil, to the mutual advantage of both nations.

Political and social relations.—Politically these people are yet unfortunately divided—in some instances with a spirit of bitterness greatly beyond what their common friends would wish to see exhibited. The origin, &c., of these divisions is so well known throughout the country that nothing more of interest or importance can be here communicated. There is believed to be alive and in motion the elements for an adjustment of their difficulties—a consideration of the claims of each party—which will, if equal to their expectations, substantially remove all future cause of discontent. This done, I see nothing to prevent the attainment, by these people, to a position among the favored of the land.

Very, &c.,

P. M. BUTLER,
Chorokee Agent.

MAJ. WILLIAM ARMSTRONG,
Acting Superintendent, W. T.

No. 17.

CREEK AGENCY, *September* 20, 1845.

SIR: The late date of the present expected communication is owing to my having just returned from a journey to different important parts of this nation, undertaken in the discharge of a particular duty, and with a view of gathering correct information upon which to report; my late ill health, and duties which required my presence at this place, having prevented my previous attendance to these requirements.

I regret to say, that the extraordinary floods of June last in the different water courses of the nation, particularly the Verdigris river, were marked with effects extremely and peculiarly destructive; many had the misfortune to lose their entire crops, with their fences, houses, and furniture, and large portions of their stock. So rapid was the rise of the water that many who lived on the banks of the streams had barely time to escape with their lives from the devouring element, leaving their *all* to be washed away by the overpowering and rapidly accumulating flood, never again to see a vestige of it. (An idea can be formed of the wonderfully rapid accumulation of the waters, from the fact that a portion of the agency farm, distance 200 yards from the bank of the Arkansas, and equal to an altitude of sixty perpendicular feet from the low water mark, was submerged after a duration of *twelve* hours *only* from the commencement of the rise; and even this was not equal to that of the Verdigris.) The flood of last year came at a period when, by making great exertions, there was still time sufficient left to replant, and in many instances good crops were raised, and the many cases of extreme want predicted from its effects did not occur; but this year the flood came at so late a period as to preclude the possibility of any thing being expected from replanting, which, added to the excessive drought of the summer throughout the nation, will, I am afraid, in many instances create much want and suffering. Not more on an average than one-third of the crop of corn—the great agricultural commodity of the nation—can be anticipated; still even this, if distributed, would be amply sufficient for the home consumption. To such an extent are the farming operations of the country extended, that many individuals will still have from 1,000 to 2,500 bushels for sale, and many more of from 500 to 1,000 bushels, and so on; but this is in the hands of individuals not generally disposed to acts of charity, or to alleviating the distresses of their suffering brethren, and who would not be willing to part with it without its just equivalent in money, which the poor sufferers generally have not. I recommended to some of the chiefs, that a motion should be made in their general council to set aside a portion of the annuity for the use and benefit of the sufferers; but it was, I regret to say, not done. From the low grounds that were overflowed arises a noxious effluvia from the deposite left by the waters, which greatly affects the health of the people living in their vicinity. The usual complaints of bilious and intermittent fever greatly prevail, and more generally abound this year; they are remarked, too, as being more fatal in their attacks. Much sickness still exists in every part of the nation, although the season has arrived when it generally subsides; and many deaths are still occurring.

The governmental system of the nation, as it at present exists, is one

ar from being calculated to encourage the people in their desire for improvement, or to bring about those results which it is the aim of the government to accomplish. The nation is divided into two parties, designated as the Upper Towns, and Lower Towns or McIntosh party. This division, according to their traditions, has always existed. Indeed, it is stated that they have only been known to each other but little upwards of a century, and their first meeting upon the banks of the Chattahooche was in a hostile attitude, each deeming the other a belligerant and a separate and distinct nation; and only upon the eve of battle did they discover their affinity of language, which, though essentially the same, has some peculiarities possessed by the one different from the other. Scattered promiscuously among both parties are the remnants of the different tribes subjugated by them, which consist of the following, to wit: Hitchatees, Uchees, Alabamas, Cawawsawdas, and Natchees. Of the last mentioned interesting tribe, but few remain; they still, however, as well as the rest, retain their original tongue. There were many others, but they are now entirely extinct, and even their names are forgotten. The members of these tribes possess all the privileges and immunities of Creek citizens. Each party has its own head chief, &c. Roly McIntosh, the chief of the Lower Towns, is also vested with the dignity of head chief of the nation, and he presides as such in the general council of the nation, which generally convenes once a year, but at no particular period. Its deliberations are confined to subjects exclusively national, and which affect both parties in common. Those subjects having reference to their own party concerns meet the action of their own councils, which are held separate and distinct, and in which neither interferes with the other. They are conducted precisely similar, and are composed of the chiefs and law-makers of the different towns (or more properly clans) adhering to each party. These chiefs are generally selected from the older citizens. In point of intelligence they cannot compare with private individuals, who generally do not desire such dignities. Generally speaking, they are extremely ignorant, are noted for their superstitious bigotry, for their old customs and ceremonies, and most bitter prejudices against all measures calculated to reform the condition or enlighten the minds of their people. There are, however, a few honorable exceptions, but they are far in the minority, and their councils have but little weight. They are opposed to religion and to education, more particularly the former, conceiving very justly that it has a tendency to lessen their authority, and to abolish their old rites and ceremonies, of which they are particularly tenacious. They have gone so far this year as to exact a fine of from two dollars to three and a half dollars a head upon all non-attendants at their "busks," green corn dances, &c., or who do not drink the physic, a most nauseous compound of poisonous weeds. Their authority is often exerted arbitrarily, and their laws are unjust and unnecessarily severe. It is a standing law of the nation, "if any person preach or hold religious meetings, whether white or red, he shall for the first offence receive fifty lashes on his bare back, and for the second offence one hundred lashes." To maintain their authority, they support, out of the annuity, an immense number of subordinates, known as law-makers, light horse, &c. The people stand in much awe of them, and blindly pay them the obedience they exact; they have no voice in their appointment nor in their acts; when a vacancy occurs,

the place is filled not by an election, but by the nomination made by some noted chief.

The two parties are about equally divided. The annuity, amounting to $34,500, is paid to the principal chiefs of both, and equally divided between them, and by them distributed in the manner set forth in the accompanying document marked A. By reference to it, it will be seen that the chiefs appropriate the whole of this large amount to the pay of themselves and their subordinates. This mode of distributing it is much complained of by the intelligent portion of the community, who are now far from being inconsiderable, and the right thus arrogated by the chiefs of doing what they please with the annuity much questioned. But they are vested with so much power, and have inspired so much awe and fear in the minds of the people generally, that they are restrained from making a public expression upon the subject. Indeed, I question very much whether there could be found many who would, before them, say that they objected to their acts in any particular. This I have sought for in regard to the annuity, and have failed to accomplish, owing to the preponderance of the chiefs and law makers, &c., and to the cause above stated.

The Lower Towns, from their closer proximity and greater intercourse with the whites, exhibit a much greater advance in civilization and manner than their brethren of the Upper Towns. The old custom of settling together compactly and cultivating the town fields has been altogether abandoned, and they are no longer visible in this portion of the nation; the people are settled promiscuously throughout the country; many of their farms and residences would do credit to the States. Ornaments, silver plates, ear-rings, beads, and paint, are grown into disuse, and seldom or never seen except at their festivals or ball plays. The dress of the whites is becoming common, with the exception of the hunting shirt, which is generally of gay printed calico, and may be conceived quite picturesque. It is tenaciously adhered to, and is common to all Indians. Hats, vests, pantaloons, and shoes may almost be said to be the common habilaments of the males, and dresses of the richest materials of silks and muslins, made, too, in accordance with the latest fashions, are often to be seen upon the persons of the female classes. Gold and silver watches, rich and costly articles of jewelry, viz: chains, rings, brooches, &c., &c., are also used by the rich. The English language, though not generally spoken, is understood by many; and a strong desire is manifested by the community at large to throw off all their old superstitious ways and customs, and to adopt the ways of the whites. On the other hand, however, it can be said that the number of the indigent and needy is much greater here in this part of the nation. The use of whiskey, too, is more general, and its effects more visible. As before stated, there is no town, nor even a village, to be met with, yet the people are every year summoned, to their great dissatisfaction, to assist in building or repairing the town council houses, &c.; in many instances, to leave their crops and go a distance of 20 or 30 miles;—this service is enforced, too, under a penalty of a pecuniary fine. The settlements of the Lower Towns extend from the Verdigris river, on it and between it and the Arkansas, on both banks, to the Red fork; a distance of about eighty miles, and an average breadth of fifty. They are separated from the settlements of the Upper Towns by an uninterrupted prairie, extending from the bottoms of the Arkansas, south,

to those of the north fork of the Canadian, a distance of about forty miles; they extend from there, westward, between and on the Deep fork, North fork, and Main Canadian, to Little river, a distance of about eighty miles, and an average breadth of about sixty. From their peculiar location, they have less intercourse with the whites, and consequently do not exhibit so much improvement. Their dress, too, is more after the aboriginal form; they are forbidden to adopt that of the whites under penalty of lashes; they are, however, generally speaking, more enterprising and industrious; they grow cotton, and practise the domestic arts of spinning and weaving to a greater extent than the others. Cases of extreme poverty are more rarely to be met with. The chiefs are more generous, and their policy more liberal than those of the Lower Towns. In addition to the two blacksmiths' shops, furnished them by treaty stipulations, they have a public shop, which is supported out of their portion of the annuity; they have also devoted a portion of it to the erection of a water mill, and the support of a millwright; they have also a wheelwright, but he is paid by the government; they have not so much wealth as the Lower Town chiefs, generally speaking—(the McIntosh family are supposed to be worth $150,000, and B. Marshall some $50,000,) yet *they* contribute nothing towards any thing of this kind—to alleviating the distresses of the poor, or to effecting any improvement in their country: however, it is reported that Opothleyoholo is by far the richest man in the whole nation.

Relations with other tribes, whites, &c., &c.—The desire of the Creek nation is to cultivate pacific and amicable relations with the surrounding tribes, and the whites generally. They hold the United States to be a great and powerful nation, and look up to the government and regard its injunctions as coming from it in its proper capacity of guardian; and they exhibit, in their intercourse with the whites, a due respect for them, and entertain a life feeling and affection for all their red brethren.

An unfortunate difficulty occurred between the people of the frontier settlements of the Upper Towns and a straggling party of Pawnee Marhars, (of the Platte or Nebraska,) upon a marauding and horse stealing expedition last winter, and which resulted in the death of seven of the latter; the circumstances attending it were duly communicated by me to the department at the time. The killing of these Indians is, however, greatly to be regretted. Reflecting upon the matter, and a close inquiry into the real circumstances that caused the affray, lead me to the conviction that the Creeks were over hasty, and all the alarm, commotion, and agitation which affected the nation subsequently could all have been obviated by their capturing instead of killing these banditti of the prairies, and which they were well able to easily effect. Immediately after the event, a rumor was circulated that the Pawnee Marhars had returned in force; that they had attacked the settlements on Little river, and defeated a party of warriors under the command of Jim Boy, who was despatched against them, whilst the Osages, with whom they had combined, had attacked and were massacreing the people on the Red fork, and were advancing towards the compact settlements. It was at one time represented that they had penetrated within a few miles of the agency. Nothing could exceed the alarm and terror excited and visible in all. I should not previously have believed the Creeks to be so excitable a people; in extenuation, however, it may be said that they knew no mercy would be shown

by the invaders. Every thing was in the greatest possible confusion. Here was to be seen a crowd of the poorer class of women on foot, loaded down with their children, and bundles containing their valuables; here a line of wagons laden with the property of the richer class, with their negro drivers, &c., &c., and their owners and their families on horseback; there, a warrior begrimed with paint, a rifle and tomahawk in hand, making the welkin ring with the discordant yell of the war-whoop! The rivers were literally covered with canoes, laden with women, children, &c., &c., all wending their way to Fort Gibson. Here they all congregated, conceiving themselves secure under its protection. I was waited upon by the chiefs in the night, and desired by them to require the commanding officer of Fort Gibson to furnish a portion of his command; which was done, and a company of dragoons proceeded to the Canadian, and two companies of infantry were also sent up the Arkansas; (the reliance of the Indians upon the promises of the government proves the propriety of this post being efficiently kept up.) The chiefs called upon the people to assemble; but at this emergency an expression was made, justly depicting the feeling entertained by the people for them; many absolutely refused to budge a foot, asserting, as a reason, that as *they* kept all their money, they might likewise do all the fighting. They left, however, with about two hundred men; and it was not discovered, until after the expiration of two days, *that the rumors were false in every instance*, and their origin could not be discovered. They had, however, a serious effect in disturbing the quietude of the country, and many were and still continue to be alarmed for the safety of the frontier settlements. Nothing, however, has since happened to disturb the general harmony and peace of the nation, nor can there, in my opinion, be anything expected.

The Creeks have sent invitations to all the tribes, extending them even to those on the lakes and in the British possessions, to the Camanche and other prairie tribes, and all others of whom they have any knowledge, to meet in a grand council to be held at the Salt Plains some time this fall. The Camanche and many others have sent in their acceptance of the invitation. It is to be held purposely with the view of reconciling all difficulties that may have occurred between them, and the interchange of civilities, &c., and with a view of coming to a general understanding with all, &c. I have *no good* reasons to believe their intentions to be otherwise than pacific; but it would be well for sagacious and experienced officers of the government to be present at it, as well to really ascertain the true object as to conciliate the friendship of the wild and foreign tribes, and invite them to visit the United States, &c.

Character.—The Creeks are grave and serious in their deportment, and are dignified and imposing in their councils. They are slow in the expression of their feelings, but are sure in the resentment of insult and affront. Though friendly to the white man, yet they are easily influenced and prejudiced against him, and are rather credulous than otherwise; when once an *enemy*, they are seldom afterwards a *friend*.

Climate.—The climate of this country is extremely variable; the extremes of heat and cold are very great. For several weeks during the past summer the thermometer stood at an average height of 100°. The rivers will sometimes bear the passage of loaded wagons on the ice in

winter, but the past one was remarkably mild and open. The diseases of the country are congestive, bilious, and intermittent fevers, &c.

Agriculture, &c.—Very little game remains within the limits of the nation, or within one hundred miles of it; their means of support, therefore, are drawn from the cultivation of the soil. The Creeks have, however, been long noted as an agricultural people. The productions are principally corn, oats, wheat, rice, cotton and tobacco, with every variety of esculent roots and vegetables. Orchards of peach trees abound; apples, pears, plumbs and cherries are also cultivated. The country is admirably adapted to the raising of stock; it consists generally of horses, hogs, cattle and sheep; domestic fowls, turkeys, geese, and ducks abound in profusion. Weaving, spinning, sewing, knitting, &c., are practised by the females, who display both ingenuity and industry.

Education, &c.—The subjects of religion and education, for their opposition to which the Creeks *have been* characterized, are now exciting general interest in the nation. Accompanying this will be found the reports of the teachers and of the missionaries, &c. employed in the nation. These go far to prove that a spirit of improvement exists among what are termed the "common Indians," and that they are not only willing to receive, and are favorably inclined to instruction in both, but that they fully appreciate the happy results and consequences arising from their encouragement of them; and that, too, despite the orders and decrees of the chiefs. Indeed, upon a close inquiry, it would be a wrong imposed upon the Creeks as a *people* to assert that they were ever opposed to these benign institutions. It is true, the missionaries placed in the nation by the different religious societies were, for some alleged wrongs, expelled from the nation in 1834, but that was the act of the *chiefs alone.* In it, as in all other cases, the voice of the people was not asked or obtained; and there are strong and many reasons to favor the belief that, jealous of the improvements effected by them, and fearful, if they were suffered to progress, that their own authority would be lessened, their old rites and ceremonies neglected and abandoned, and that veneration and obedience, to which they had been long accustomed, would no more be paid to them, were the true causes of the expulsion, and not those alleged. At the present time the different religious societies are extending their operations, and each is gaining new converts. The cause of temperance, too, has here its champions, and is prospering. How much it is to be regretted, that the Creeks have not rulers who would co-operate in encouraging, instead of opposing these glorious works! I can assert without hesitancy that the Creeks were never in a condition so well calculated for their propagation as at present, or one more generally prosperous.

The manual labor schools promised the Creeks, by the late treaty, are exciting great and universal attention, and their speedy erection is anxiously hoped for. By all, most sanguine expectations are indulged in that they will prove the greatest blessing yet bestowed upon them by the general government, in which opinion I also join. Of their immediate success not a doubt can be indulged. All that is required is to place them in the hands of sagacious, experienced persons, and the result will be all that can be anticipated. In addition, I venture the opinion, that if any more of the funds belonging to the nation could with propriety be used for educational purposes, they should be devoted to the erection of other

schools upon the same plan, or of one on the plan and of the extent of that pride of the Indian country, the "Spencer Academy." But this is in the hope and belief that the government of the nation will be changed. An immediate one is required. Under the present form, literary acquirements and the arts cannot, will not, be appreciated or encouraged.

In obedience to *reiterated* instructions, I sent to Col. Johnson's academy in Kentucky, in June last, *seven* Creek boys who were obtained from their parents, and sent on with their full approbation, one of whom is the chief of an important clan. I found no difficulty in obtaining them. Were they required, a hundred, aye more, could be readily obtained, so anxious are the people generally to have their children educated and taught the arts and customs of civilized life. Much opposition has been manifested to this academy by the chiefs, who assert, as a reason, that their young men who have been educated there invariably make drunkards, idlers, and otherwise bad members of society. That there are some who turn out to be thus, I will not pretend to deny, but that it is a general case is absolutely untrue; but even admitting that it is, who will pretend to say that the fault lies in the institution? Are idleness and intoxication there practised or permitted? Most assuredly they are not; but, on the contrary, sound, wholesome doctrines of morality are thoroughly inculcated in the minds of the students. I have known some who, upon arriving in their country from it, were under the conviction of religion; and even now there are several who are preaching the gospel to their unenlightened brethren. No; the cause lies in their own country, and greatly with the authorities of it, who give the students no encouragement to practise the arts they have acquired, nor employment to make a living in the manner they are qualified for; and the following will exemplify the treatment they meet with from them, and is a verbatim statement given me by a former subject of the academy, and who, during his lifetime, acted in the capacity of agency interpreter: "I often fancied," said he, "while on my journey home, that upon arriving there I will seek employment in some public capacity, where I may have an opportunity of making known all that I have learned, that will be of service to my people. I will use my acquirements in benefiting my country, and the arts I am acquainted with shall be practised for the general utility and good. Upon my arrival, after seeing my relations I visited the chiefs, and made known to them my plans and intentions. Judge my astonishment at their answer:—You advise us? you are a white man! you cannot talk Indian. If you desire to be one, pull off your fine clothes; put on hunting shirt and leggins; go to the busk and drink the physic, and then talk like one, and we will listen to you. I left them 'more in sorrow than in anger.' My plans had failed; my means were failing; my relations were poor. I had no means of profitably employing my time. To disperse care and trouble, I turned to drinking whiskey." And in that turning he died; killed in a drunken frolic by one of his companions. Thus it is; his case answers well for all those the chiefs complain of. I have visited the institution, and believe it to be a good one, and admirably calculated to accomplish the purposes it is intended for. It is indeed questionable with me if its effects upon the Indians are not superior to those anticipated to occur from the establishment of such institutions in their own country—that is, as regards the proportion in numbers; and, in my opinion, it ought

to be kept up; but vain will be all these labors, visionary will be these schemes, if the government of this country is not revised. The aims of the United States government are entirely subverted and overthrown, as before stated.

I have visited the different schools; that at Spring Hill is located in the heart of a compact, populous, and respectable settlement in one of the most healthy sections of the nation. There are about thirty regular scholars at it; they are as cheerful and attentive a set of scholars as I ever saw in any country. They are cleanly and decent in their appearance, and display great affection for their teachers, and are rapidly progressing in their studies. They are for the most part full-bloods. The school at the Presbyterian mission is at present in vacation. The death of the wife of the respected missionary and teacher, Mr. Loughridge, is much deplored, and will render its continuance under his charge rather doubtful. I regard him as being instrumental in effecting much of the good and improvement visible in the nation. With him originated the temperance society, &c. &c. He is particularly restricted from preaching, &c., except at his own house; he has still, however, gained many converts, &c. There is a neighborhood school under the direction of a Mr. Essex in one of the settlements on Little river, and has about fourteen regular scholars. There is also, I am informed, a small school of some six or eight in one of the settlements on the south bank of the Arkansas, taught by a native. Both are supported by the contributions of the people who have employed them.

The four school-houses built under the direction of the former agent, are now ready for occupancy. The desire is that the school shall be put into immediate operation. In my estimate of funds requisite for the pay of teachers of these schools, I have set the sum per annum at $500, and this in conformity with the letter of the Commissioner upon the subject, who thinks it sufficient. I am, however, of the opinion that $600 is not too much for the services of a properly qualified person, when it is considered that the duties are arduous, the country sickly—sometimes fatal to strangers; that the houses are in the heart of the nation, where the face of a white man is seldom seen, nor the language spoken, and are all far distant, one of them 70 miles from the nearest post office. It may be allowed that I am correct. I take the liberty, while upon the subject, of presenting the name of the Rev. W. D. Collins, as one of the teachers. Selections of the others are not yet made. I shall, after reflecting upon the propriety of it, institute an inquiry into the qualifications of the various and numerous educated natives, who would be desirous of filling such situations, and if they can be found properly qualified, I will in due time nominate their appointment to the department. In the mean time, I shall wait for instructions as to the time the school shall commence.

Goods, &c.—The goods sent on in part payment of the interest due the individuals who are claimants for losses, &c., have heretofore been, in accordance with their demands, placed in the hands of the chiefs, and distributed by them, who also employ persons to assist them. I am satisfied, from the number of complaints, that this is not justly done, and it will henceforward receive my particular attention. (I hope an allowance will be made me for the pay of assistants in this particular duty, which is arduous, and, indeed, cannot be efficiently performed by one person. An

allowance for the erection of a warehouse for their reception is also absolutely necessary. The agent, after he receipts for, is responsible for the safe keeping of them, but for the want of one is obliged to entrust them to the care of others. I am in a constant state of anxiety from the time they arrive till they are issued, which often does not occur for months.) The chiefs complain that they are sent at all, and would prefer money; but the people to whom they are due are satisfied, being convinced that they are much cheaper than they could obtain them. But they do complain of the articles generally sent, particularly of such quantities of strouding, small blankets, squaw axes, pipes, beads, &c. I would recommend that they should, for the future, consist in part of the following, to wit: Large size white and colored blankets, bleached and unbleached domestics, blue and assorted calicoes, gay and fancy colors; colored domestics, stripes, and plaid domestic checks; bed tick; a small quantity ready-made clothing, consisting of pants and vests, of the cheapest description, for winter wear; men's and women's coarse shoes, &c.: tin ware, brass kettles, pins, needles, &c.; coarse pant stuff, woollen and cotton, and a small quantity of strouding, &c.

Agency.—A proposal was made last winter to the department for the removal of the agency to a more healthy situation, which met with its sanction, and an appropriation of $600, the amount applied for, was made to carry it into effect. The point recommended for its future location was one about three miles distant from this place, upon the opposite (south) side of the Arkansas. I was, however, unwilling to perform an act of this kind without consulting the wishes of the nation. I consequently deferred removing until I had obtained the opinion of it. At the convening of the general council, I submitted the proposition to them, and they objected to the proposed place as not being sufficiently central, and recommended another which is certainly preferable, but it is about twenty miles in the interior from the Verdigris. I have no objection to it; it is a high, *healthy* situation, with a remarkably fine spring of wholesome water, and is central to the compact settlements of both parties; but it will require a larger sum to remove there than that appropriated. I should say that $1,200 is as small an amount as it can suitably and efficiently be effected with. It will also probably require an additional amount of about $200 for the purchase of the few improvements that will be contained in the reservation. The Indians desire that it should be there, conceiving very properly that there will be no cause to render its removal again necessary, but that it will be permanent. I shall wait for the views of the department upon the subject, but I take the liberty of requesting its favorable notice and an early answer to it. The present situation is *dangerous*, particularly at this season. I cannot bring my family to it, and I have avoided it myself, except for the transaction of necessary business. A plat of the before mentioned site will be prepared and duly forwarded.

General remarks—traders, whiskey, &c.—The character of the traders among the Creeks is, I believe, in every instance, unexceptionable. The principal trading establishment is owned by Mr. N. B. Hawkins, an intelligent, educated, and wealthy native, who employs a capital of about $10,000 in its support. The stocks of goods kept up by them are, in most respects, similar to those found in the stores of the towns and settlements of the whites, and are suited to the wants of the country. None

of them have ever been suspected of dealing in ardent spirits. The number of white men married to native women residing in the nation is twenty-seven. The use and consumption of whiskey are greatly on the decrease; the sight of a drunken Indian is becoming of rare occurrence, and only to be met with after the celebration of their festivals, dances, &c. The Indians, generally speaking, have each sufficient stock for the support of themselves and families. I think the proportion of those who have not a cow, pony, and a little bunch of hogs, is very small. Very little money ever comes into the hands of the common Indian. What little they do obtain is generally earned by labor done for the richer classes, and by the sale of fruit and garden vegetables, &c., to the traders and whites. The sale of pecan nuts, the trees bearing which abound in the rich bottoms of the water courses, is of considerable importance to this class. It is estimated that the quantity sold to the different traders during the last fall and winter amounted to between 9 and 10.000 bushels, the price paid for which was from 50 cents to $1 per bushel, and was generally bartered for necessary articles of clothing, sugar, coffee, salt, &c.; besides, a large quantity was, no doubt, used for food. The black walnut and hickory also abound in the nation; their nuts and the pecan are used in the preparation of an article of food common to the Indian. The acorn of the black-jack affords a rich oil, which is also used by them as a substitute for lard, and answers the purpose very well. In the construction of their houses, which, though generally small, are light and warm, they display much neatness and ingenuity. When we reflect that but little more than half a century has elapsed since these people were in what may be termed a savage state, refusing to perform any offices of labor, but following the chase entirely for subsistence, having no occupation but war and hunting, and compare them then with their present condition, we most certainly cannot sufficiently applaud the fostering care of the general government, which has effected so great a reformation. Their adoption of the dress of the whites, of their customs and manners, and in many instances of their religion, the disuse of ornaments, the good feeling generally exhibited towards them, their appreciation of the schools, &c., and the many instances of their contempt for their useless and absurd customs and ceremonies, &c., give unerring signs of the rapid advance of civilization and manners among them. They enjoy, too, the possession of a country of a rich soil, and a climate which, although it has its imperfections, they are inured to and like. All that remains to forward the work, and to make them a comparatively happy people, is the establishment of a proper government, in which they can be represented, and the adoption of just and equitable laws, which they are fully competent to judge the want of, and to appreciate if they had them. To bring about so desirable a state of things, may I be permitted to suggest the propriety of the matter being recommended to the general council of the nation, and that it be done by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs or Secretary of War. Advice coming from such authority, it will doubtless listen to attentively. Reasons, cogent and conclusive, can be given them to at once abandon their present form of government, and to adopt one based upon the elective principle. A constitution and code of laws couched in comprehensive language, and having reference to general subjects only, would, I think, if presented to them, meet with their ultimate approval;

more particularly if they are reminded that the prosperous condition and the general intelligence of their close neighbors and brethren, the Choctaws and others, is greatly owing to the adoption by them of the course now recommended for their consideration. Let an equal and just distribution of the annuity per capita be also recommended. This I believe the department would be sanctioned to *order*, for, as I have before shown, the few only derive any benefit from it, and that few already rich. Selfishness, the now prevailing characteristic of the richer and influential class, will create much opposition to this measure, but it ought to be persisted in. An experience obtained by a life of upwards of fifty years, either among or in the close vicinity of all the Indian tribes, both indigenous and emigrant, now on this frontier, and a watchful observation of the different gradations of condition through which they have passed, enable me to judge, and to correctly assert, that the Creeks are now in a condition in which the aboriginal form of government has become *oppressive* and *arbitrary*. The desire of the Creek is *now* to improve his *condition*; the divine auspices of religion and education are teaching him the necessity of *reflection*, and he is practising the precept. He desires information and instruction; he desires that form of life now congenial to his happiness; he desires a voice in the councils of his country; and he desires the free exercise of his liberty, and the dictates of conscience. Why should he be restrained? If the authorities of his tribe deny him these, the government of the United States, in her capacity of guardian, must forward to their accomplishment such reasonable wants and wishes. I therefore feel warranted in making the before mentioned suggestion, and respectfully desire its notice.

I feel warranted in presenting the thanks of the nation for the early arrival of the annuity.

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All respectfully submitted.

JAMES LOGAN,
Creek Agent.

Major WM. ARMSTRONG,
Acting Superintendent, Western Territory.

No. 18.

CHICKASAW AGENCY, *August* 16, 1845.

SIR: Since my last annual report there has nothing of much importance transpired among the Chickasaws; they are by degress moving into their district, and I am in hopes that in a few years nearly all the tribe will be settled in it. They have a fine district of country, running as far west as the Texas line, and Red river is its southern boundary. A large portion of their district is prairie, a great portion of which is very fine and rich, and is well adapted to cultivation of corn, and I think wheat and oats. There is plenty of wood land in the district, which the natives generally prefer cultivating, that produces very well. The lands on Red river are well adapted to the culture of corn and cotton; the lands on Washita, Blue, and Boggy are very fine, and produce remarkably well; and their whole country is generally well supplied with water. In the

Cross Timbers (which commences about fifteen miles west of the Chickasaw agency) there are some very fine lands and good water. None of the Chickasaws have yet settled in that section, but in the course of a few years I think it will be settled by them. There are some mountains in the district, several mineral springs, two oil springs, and one or two salt springs. It needs nothing but intelligence and industry to make this a splendid country. In the extreme western part of the Chickasaw district, there are several tribes, or parts of tribes, settled, which are generally called the wild Indians, viz: The Kechi, the Taw-a-ash, the Witchataw, and Wacoes, and on Washita, about ten miles from the agency, three-fourths of the Caddo Indians have settled, but there have been but few complaints of their having committed depredations upon the Chickasaws in the last year. Some of the Cherokees have frequently stolen horses from the Chickasaws—they were those desperate Cherokees who have been outlawed by their nation.

The Chickasaws that have settled in the Chickasaw district are the most intelligent of the tribe; it is true that some few quite intelligent half-breeds have not yet moved in the district.

The crops in the nation promised on the first of July to be very fine, but the drought has cut them very short. We had no rain in this section of the country from the 30th June until about the 12th of August, and it would be a fair calculation to say that the crops have been cut short one-half. Had it not been for the drought, there would have been some twenty or twenty-five thousand bushels surplus of corn raised among the Chickasaws in the district.

There appears to be great improvement in agriculture; they are extending their farms, and some of them are raising oats and rye. Two half-breed Chickasaws residing near Fort Towson, in one of the Choctaw districts, are raising large crops of cotton.

The Chickasaw commissioners last December made an agreement with the Methodist Episcopal Missionary Society to build a large academy in the Chickasaw district, for the purpose of educating both Chickasaw boys and girls, provided their agreement was sanctioned by the Hon. Secretary of War, whose sanction has not yet been received. The Rev. E. B. Duncan and lady are teaching school in the district; it is a Methodist missionary school, and has been of great advantage. Mr. Duncan preaches in several places in the district, and is well received by the Chickasaws, and I am happy to say he has done great good.

There are a great many of the Chickasaws that are anxious for their children to be educated, and some are opposed both to schools and preaching; and I am sorry to say that one or two that are educated are among those that are opposed to schools, and appear anxious to keep their people in ignorance.

The Chickasaws will receive, in September next, an annuity of little over sixty thousand dollars, about the same amount of money that they received last year. The large amount of money that the Chickasaws receive does, and is well calculated to keep them from improving. It is the cause of great jealousy and hard feelings, and they will remain in that situation as long as they draw large annuities; and there are at least one thousand, if not more, of the Chickasaws, that depend nearly entirely upon their annuity for clothing and support; but if they had no annuity, they would turn their attention to cultivating the soil; and by half work-

ing, they would make an abundant support; and there is no country better adapted to raising of cattle, sheep, and hogs, than this. And could it be done, I certainly would recommend that five or eight hundred thousand dollars of their funds be set aside exclusively for schools, blacksmiths, &c., and the remainder of their funds be paid to them at one time; and to all those that would be the least prudent it would be of great advantange; those less prudent would spend their money, and then they would be compelled to work, for there is no game in this country worth hunting; and then all jealousies would cease, and, in my opinion, they would do much better than they are doing now, or will do so long as they have those large annuities. In this opinion I believe I would be sustained by every agent in the United States that has paid any attention to the subject.

There are employed for the Chickasaws three blacksmiths; one of them is within four miles of the Chickasaw agency, one near Fort Towson, and one on Bushy creek, about sixty miles from the agency. They have all attended well to their business, and, so far as I am able to judge, have given satisfaction to the Chickasaws. In my opinion it would be best for all the shops to be in the Chickasaw district. I think it would be the means of the Chickasaws moving into their own district; and by being altogether they would be more apt to be friendly, and carry on their business in the manner that the Choctaws do. And I will here venture to say that there is not a red right attached to the United States that are advanced more rapidly, and at the same time without any difficulty among themselves; all of which may be attributed to their good and wholesome laws, and the advice of one of the best of agents.

The Chickasaw commissioners all resigned on the 18th day of July last. It was agreed among the Chickasaws that the expenses of the nation should be curtailed; and as the land business was now over, there being no more reserves wanting, as all the Chickasaws had participated in the treaty of May 24, 1834, and believing that the business of the tribe could be carried on by the chiefs of the district, and the captains, it was concluded that all would resign and save that much of the expenses of the tribe; but after a number of the principal men of the nation had left the council ground for their homes, a good many of those Chickasaws that live from fifty to a hundred and seventy miles out of the district appointed some officers by different names, from commissions, with very high salaries; some, I understand, were to get as high as twelve hundred dollars per annum. Their proceedings have not yet been presented to me; if they had been, I should of course have protested against them, believing that the district officers were all sufficient to do the business of the tribe. In these views I feel satisfied that I would be fully sustained by Major Armstrong, the superintendent.

It is my opinion that the intercourse law is defective in several points. I would respectfully suggest the propriety of having a meeting of the superintendents, agents, and sub-agents, and let them point out the defects of the law, and propose amendments. The superintendents and agents have many various cases before them, and they can see from experience what is wanting in the law; this is my reason for suggesting the plan.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

A. M. M. UPSHAW,
U. S. Agent for Chickasaws.

Col. WM. ARMSTRONG,
Superintendent Western Territory.

No. 19.

NEOSHO SUB-AGENCY,
August 30, 1845.

SIR: In complying with the regulations of the department, I have the honor to submit the following remarks in relation to the affairs of this sub-agency.

As I have not had charge of affairs here but a very short time, and being compelled to devote the most of that time to the transporting and paying out the annuity funds, &c., of this sub-agency, it cannot be expected that my report will be as complete or as satisfactory as it might otherwise have been; but from a thorough examination of the former reports made in relation to these Indians, I find that the greatest improvements are spoken of every year—so much so that, if you could possibly believe that these Indians really have made such rapid strides on the road towards civilization, education, agriculture, and industry of every kind, as has been reported, you might correctly imagine them to be at least up side by side, if not ahead of the most civilized, wisest, moral, industrious, wealthy, and enterprising people on *earth*.

But in dealing out even handed justice to these people, to you and to all parties concerned I feel bound to say that, in my humble opinion, the persons reporting have generally given the most exaggerated accounts of the advancement of these people.

I do not wish to be understood as saying that no improvement has been made, for I have no doubt whatever but these people have been greatly improved in many respects; and when compared with many other tribes which might be named, I know that they are greatly in advance of them in point of civilization, &c.; yet it is a fact that there are quite a number yet among these people who really consider it a disgrace to labor. They say that they are brave warriors and good hunters, and never will acknowledge their inability to make a living by hunting, by working with their hands like a *squaw*. It must be recollected that the custom of these people is for the young warriors to hunt, &c., and the very old men and squaws to make corn, dress the skins, and in fact do all the hard work that is to be done.

And I see, that in many of the former reports made in relation to these Indians they are all reported as agriculturists, mechanics, &c., saying thereby that they have all given up the chase. Further; some of these people, and a considerable number, (particularly the Senecas) say in relation to education, that this thing called education may perhaps be reconciled to the consciences of white men, as they have a great many *laws*, contracts, &c., written upon paper, and education is necessary to enable them to evade them; but the Indians, they say, have but few, and they are written in the heart.

I am not prepared to say how many of these Indians are engaged in agriculture or in the chase; neither am I prepared to say how many acres of land they have in cultivation. In the short time that I have been among them I could not possibly ascertain these things correctly, and therefore will defer it until another time.

The Senecas number this year (26th August) 54 men, 43 women, and 51 children; making in all 153 persons.

These people live in good comfortable houses generally. They have among them a large stock of horses, cattle, and hogs, but particularly of horses; they have good crops growing this season, consisting of corn, potatoes, cabbages, beans, and melons. They seldom sow wheat, oats, or any kind of small grains. Their saw and grist mills are in good condition, and when the water is not too scarce they do a fine business; but the present summer they have been idle a great portion of the time for want of water.

The mixed bands of Senecas and Shawnees number this year (27th August) 73 men, 79 women, and 89 children; making in all 241 persons. These people are rather more industrious; are not so much inclined to drink, and have more and better farms than their neighbors, the Senecas; and although they are the best farmers of any of the tribes in this sub-agency, yet even they never think of raising any thing to sell, with one or two exceptions. It appears to be contrary to their nature to ever think of selling anything that can be eaten. These, like the Senecas, generally live in comfortable cabins; have stock of various kinds—say horses, cattle, and hogs; and this year their corn, &c., looks very fine. These people frequently sow and raise small grain, such as wheat and oats.

This tribe, take them generally, are a high minded, proud, and honorable people. They are unusually friendly and true to their friends, but deadly hostile towards their enemies. They never promise you anything without performing it punctually; and anything that is promised them they expect unconditionally, which makes it important never to promise them any thing without a positive certainty of being able to comply with the promise; for although the most irrefregable testimony may be offered to show them the cause of the disappointment, yet no allowance will be made by them for circumstances.

The Quapaws number this year (21st August) 60 men, 66 women, and 121 children; making in all 247 persons.

The history of these people for the last ten years or more shows them to be a very lazy, ignorant, and superstitious people. It also shows that these people have dissipated to such an extent that they have become almost extinct; but the present number shows that they are increasing at this time; and the great number of children, as reported above, according to their whole number, is conclusive evidence that at the present time they are increasing in population rapidly.

These people do not hunt after nor drink whiskey as they used to do; they stay more in their own country; work more and hunt less; and all appear to have a desire to live, to act, and to be educated like white men. The leading men of this tribe all have good farms; and many of the young men say that this winter, under their new farmer, they will open farms and raise a crop the next season. This great change in these people in so short a time may all be justly attributed to the happy effect which the school has had which has been established among them. The Quapaws have fine crops this year. These people have not so much stock as the Senecas and Shawnees; they are a very poor people, but kind hearted and agreeable, and there is no people within my knowledge that need assistance and encouragement more than the Quapaws; and there is no people, in my opinion, who at the same time, are more worthy the assistance and protection of the United States government than they are.

I have, in compliance with the 18th paragraph Revised Regulations, No. 3, visited the school in the Quapaw country, and was furnished with a report of the condition of that institution by the Rev. Samuel G. Patterson; it is herewith enclosed, and marked B. I find about 20 scholars which are boarded, clothed, and taught at this institution: 16 of them are males, and 4 females. They are all intelligent and smart looking children. I am informed that these scholars are boarded, clothed, &c., by the Episcopal Methodist Missionary Society; and the teacher, I am informed, is paid for his services by the United States government. The only reason why there is not more of the Quapaw children at this school, is, that the means furnished it by the Missionary Society are insufficient to supply any more; and, as these Indians have made application to their great Father, the President, to send them, to help support and carry on this school, the $1,000 per annum, with all arrearages, according to 3d article of treaty of 13th May, 1833, I must beg leave to say that I hope this will be done. This institution is called the *Crawford Seminary*. It is situated on the east side of the Pomme de Terre, alias Spring river, between the river and a beautiful, rich, and fertile prairie, where they have commenced making a farm, (for this is a manual labor boarding-school.) The scholars are well clothed, and fed on good, sweet, and wholesome diet. The teacher of this institution, the Rev. Samuel G. Patterson, is a man under good character, and in every way competent and well qualified to have charge of this institution. At some future time I hope to be able to make a more minute and perhaps satisfactory report, as my opportunity to do so, I hope, will be better. At this time every thing within the bounds of this sub-agency is peace, good feeling, and harmony.

I have the honor to be your most obedient servant,

JAMES S. RAINES,
Neosho Sub-agent.

Captain WILLIAM ARMSTRONG,
Acting Superintendent Western Territory.

No. 20.

SEMINOLE SUB-AGENCY, *September* 30, 1845.

SIR: It becomes my duty, under the regulations of the War Department, to make an "annual report" of the state of the tribe for which I have been appointed sub-agent; but from the short period which has elapsed since entering upon the duties of the office, it is out of my power to do more than to give a general idea of their condition, and the suitability of the country to their mode of life.

Having removed to their present homes but last spring, they are still laboring under the inconveniences and hardships usually incident to emigration, with the gloomy prospect in the future of suffering and want. For the present, and a few months to come, they will receive partial relief from the issuance of rations and the payment for "property abandoned in the east." This, however, is but a temporary relief; the money about being paid out ($13,000) will barely pay the debts which they have been obliged to contract, (which are contracted on the credit of said payment) and pro-

vide such articles as are indispensably necessary to protect their persons from the winter's blast.

The lateness of the season in which they removed, under the most favorable auspices, would have prevented them from making a sufficiency of corn to subsist upon "until roasting-ear time" next year; and when we take into consideration the past season—the unprecedented drought—it will be apparent to any man that it was utterly impossible they could raise even enough breadstuff to feed them a longer period than two or three months; and now, although rations are regularly issued under the prompt and careful superintendence of Colonel G. C. Matlock, yet they have used a great portion of their own crops, owing, not to a careless or wasteful disposition, but to the fact that they, as all Indians, use and require more corn than is allowed to a ration for a white man; and for this reason I am inclined to the opinion they would do better with more corn and less meat than as under the customary or established regulation.

After undergoing all the hardships of a protracted war in Florida, brought to this country in a destitute condition, and put down without a home over which they could have control, it cannot be a matter of surprise that they have not accumulated a stock of cattle to take with them to their new homes. To be sure they have had cattle issued to them on their feet, (alive,) but only the amount of rations which they were entitled to, and was required for their subsistence at the time.

It is somewhat unfortunate that the issuance of rations and payment of this money should take place at the same time. Had the money been paid *now*, and the issuing of rations postponed until next spring and summer, they could have got through their difficulties much easier; but this arrangement could only be made by consent of the contractor for furnishing provisions, which, however, was declined, when consulted on the subject by Major Armstrong, acting superintendent, &c., who was very anxious, on account of the Indians, to have it so arranged. Thus it will be seen they will necessarily be in want after the expiration of the six months, unless something is done for their relief by those having the power to pass some remedial act.

The country to which they have been removed, as far as I have seen, is well suited to the culture of corn and other grain, and also for raising stock. It is principally prairie land, with sufficient timber, however, for all their wants. There are fine bodies of tillable land, well timbered, lying on the rivers and creeks; but the great detriment of the country is the scarcity of good water.

The Indians have generally settled near the creeks, (making their fields on the bottom land,) in "towns," some few miles distant from each other.

Many of the Seminoles are still remaining among the Creeks, and some few among the Cherokees. Those among the Creeks are on or near North fork of Canadian, about 50 miles from Little river—on Deep fork, about 60 miles, and on Elm creek, about 75 miles—many of whom probably will remove hereafter. The great body are about 8 miles north from Little river, where they have lately finished their council house, and may be considered a permanent location. They have made considerable improvements, clearing fields for next year's crop, and making cabins, &c., to shelter them during the coming winter.

They say the country is almost destitute of "game," and that the promises of government, in their treaty in Florida, "to give them a country in exchange better adapted to their habits of life," have not been carried out in this as in other respects, being much colder, and where their necessities are greatly increased: and it is on this account they claim more consideration from our government.

The agency has been located about two and a half miles southeast of the council house, where also I have directed, by the request of the Indians, the blacksmith to put up his shop.

The Seminoles, under all the circumstances, it cannot be denied, are much better situated and contented than they have heretofore been since their removal west of the Mississippi.

On the subject of education among the Seminoles, little can be said; for, as far as my knowledge goes, there is little or no interest taken about it.

It is hardly necessary for me to say any thing on the "whiskey trade;" being among the Seminoles, as amongst most of the Indians on this frontier, the source of nearly all the mischief which takes place; gradually wearing away the substance of the Indian, and effecting slowly, but certainly, their ruin, and the extirpation of their race.

Respectfully, &c.

M. DUVAL,
Seminole Sub-agent.

Hon. T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD,
Commissioner Indian Affairs; Washington, D. C.

No. 21.

OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
St. Louis, September 10, 1845.

SIR: In making my annual report for the present year, I shall confine myself principally to matters that have come under my own observation, and to such general information as I have been enabled to obtain during the past year.

The seasonable provision so liberally made by you for furnishing the destitute Indians with corn during the last winter, to supply the failure of their crops occasioned by the heavy rains of May and June, 1844, afforded a very timely relief; but for it, their sufferings must have been extreme. The relief thus furnished, I have reason to believe, has had the effect of increasing the confidence of the Indians in the benevolent feelings of the government towards them. This humane act has not had the effect of causing an improper reliance upon the government for support; on the contrary, much greater efforts have been made this year than usual to raise a sufficiency of bread-stuffs, and I am gratified to know from personal observation in many instances that their efforts have been attended with a certain prospect of a full harvest of corn: most of the tribes, it is said, will have a surplus of corn. I regret, however, to learn that the Indians on the Osage, embracing parts of the Pottawatomies, Chippewas, Ottowas, and Weas, have again had their crops destroyed by the

high water of that river and its tributaries. Arrangements are now being made to furnish the unfortunate with corn, without appealing to the liberality of the government; a considerable extent of prairie has been broken this season on the high land for the Indians on the Osage, and it is to be hoped that in future they will not be affected by its high waters.

I am gratified to learn that there is an increasing spirit among the Indians for agricultural improvement, and that a feeling seems generally to be gaining ground among them that they must rely more upon the cultivation of the soil, and less upon the chase, for their future subsistence.

A judicious education of the Indians in their own country, combined with agriculture, the mechanical arts, and the Christian religion, conducted by energetic and exemplary missionaries, will, no doubt, judging from the experience of the past, do much to produce a rapid improvement amongst them.

The school among the Pawnees has been conducted but with little success; from my visit to them in June last, I am inclined to the opinion that no Indians in this superintendency are susceptible of a more rapid improvement than the Pawnees; they are poor, and anxious to adopt the habits of the whites; they readily give up their children to the white families settled among them, and it was interesting to see the great improvement which some children, thus obtained almost naked from the lodge, had made in a few weeks.

The American Board of Missions have a mission at the Pawnee village. It is difficult to form a right conclusion as to the extent of its usefulness; they have no doubt acquired, to a considerable degree, their confidence, and wield a salutary influence over them. If the Indians could be induced to remain stationary, or even a portion of the nation, much might be done for them. I know of no mode that would be so apt to induce them to remain at home as the establishment of a manual labor school among them. The condition of the Pawnees is truly deplorable; they live principally on the buffalo. From their exposed location to war parties of the Sioux and other nations, when they go to hunt, the whole nation moves—old, young, and sick—that can possibly move; the consequence is, that if they have far to go to find the buffalo, many are left on the way and perish. A manual labor school established among them, on a large plan, would be the means of inducing many of the nation to settle in its immediate vicinity, and, with the aid of the school, and the use of the arms furnished by the government for the protection of the farmers, would enable them to protect themselves and the weaker portion of the nation (who would from choice remain at home) from the attacks of war parties.

Having but little confidence in the success of government teachers, in the Indian country, I am induced to believe that the interest of the Pawnees would be greatly advanced by placing the funds for education, as well as those for agricultural purposes, in the hands of the American Board of Missions, under such conditions as might be agreed upon by the department and the board. The Pawnee farms have succeeded very little better than the school.

The Omahas have neither school nor missionary among them; the Ottoes are in the same condition; the lands of these Indians join—indeed there is a considerable strip of country, lying between the Horn and Missouri rivers, that is claimed by both nations; the Omahas are a peaceable

people, and have ever been the friends of the whites; from their exposed position and poverty, (not being able to procure fire-arms,) they are rapidly being reduced by the frequent attacks of war parties.

I would recommend that the government purchase from the Omahas their country and the land in dispute between them and the Ottoes, and make a common fund of the proceeds, the Ottoes giving the Omahas a portion of their country or a common interest in it; they are a good deal connected by marriage and every day intercourse, and I think there would be but little difficulty in effecting the arrangement. The two nations, by thus uniting their funds, would be able to support a large manual labor school; both nations are anxious for a school and farms. This mode is the only one that has presented itself to my mind as calculated to save the once powerful nation of Omahas from an early extinction.

The Pottawatomies at Council Bluffs are without any means of education at all; many of them are very desirous for schools, and it is a lamentable fact that many of the children who would be at school had they one to go to, are now growing up in ignorance for want of the common facilities of education; it is a heavy and common complaint with the Indians, that while they have a large fund set apart for education, they cannot obtain even a common neighborhood school in their country.

At the Great Nemaha sub-agency the Presbyterian board of missions are erecting a large and commodious building, for the purpose of educating the Sacs, Foxes, and Iowas of that sub-agency. It is already far advanced, and will be in a condition for occupancy during the coming winter or early next spring.

The Kickapoos have no school.

The Stockbridges have a mission among them, under the direction of the Baptist missions board at Boston. They have also had a school under the care of the same board; as to their success, I am uninformed.

The Delawares, as you are aware, have entered into an engagement to send a number of their children to the Shawnee manual labor school. The Baptist Missions Society of Boston have a school in the Delaware country, but of its success I am not advised. The Munsees have a missionary and a teacher among them, supported by the Moravian Missionary Society. They have sustained a severe loss during this year by the death of the Rev. Mr. Misch, who has been for some time among them. Mr. M. was remarkable for his piety and simplicity of manner. He was a teacher not only of religion and letters, but his time was devoted to the general improvement of the Indians. He taught them to build and to plant; indeed, he was a father, and his excellent wife a mother, in the practice of everything that was calculated to advance their temporal or spiritual interest. The Munsees have lost a friend, and the missionary cause a devoted and valuable member.

The Wyandots have built an excellent school-house, and have a school in operation. They have a liberal and permanent provision for education. From the character of the Wyandots, and their present improved condition, I am of opinion that in a few years they will be both well educated and civilized. The Methodist Episcopal Church has a mission among them, and a large number of the nation are said to be exemplary church members.

The Methodist Episcopal Church are about establishing a manual

labor school among the Kanzas. This tribe has made but little advance towards civilization. They are extremely poor and destitute, and rely mainly on the buffalo for subsistence. They are said to be easily managed, and it is believed that they will improve with as much facility as other Indians under similar circumstances.

The Shawnees, as you are aware, have several schools in their country. The Baptist Missionary Society of Boston have one, but of its success I cannot speak advisedly. The Society of Friends (Quakers) have a flourishing manual labor school, in which are taught from forty to sixty scholars. Their pupils are not confined to the Shawnees; they are received from different nations. The discipline of the school and its general management are creditable to both teachers and managers, and to the exemplary society which supports it.

The Shawnee manual labor school, established by the Methodist Episcopal Church, is another valuable institution in the Shawnee country. This school, as you are also advised, has been in successful operation for several years; they have over one hundred scholars from different nations; they are building, with a view to increase the number to two hundred. Everything connected with this institution is upon the most practical and commodious plan. Farming and mechanical arts are taught the boys, as well as letters; the girls are taught to spin, knit, weave, needle-work, and housewifery, and, in conjunction with letters, music. The discipline and exemplary morality of this school, and the good conduct of the pupils, are highly creditable to the children as well as to its immediate managers and teachers.

The Ottowas, I believe, have no school in their nation; they have a missionary among them, supported by the Boston society—the Rev. Mr. Meeker—who has done much for the general improvement of the Ottowas.

The Peorias and Kaskaskias have no school. The American Indian Mission Association (Western Baptist) have established this year a manual labor school in the Wea and Piankeshaw country; of its progress I have not yet been informed.

The Catholic Church has two schools, a male and female, among the Pottawatomies of the Osage. They have also a flourishing mission among them. The schools and the mission have exercised a very happy effect in correcting the idle and vicious habits of the Pottawatomies. The male school numbers about sixty scholars. The female school, which is under the immediate charge of four or five accomplished ladies of the "Sacred Heart of Jesus," is a most valuable institution, and is no doubt calculated to exercise a most beneficial influence upon the Indian character.

The Osages as yet have no school or missionary among them. Under your authority, contracts have been made for the erection of houses, with a view to establishing for them a manual labor school, under the management of the Catholic Church; it is expected that it will go into operation about the first of January next.

The Methodist Episcopal Church have Missionaries among most of the border tribes upon the itinerant principle. There is evidently a decided spirit for improvement among the border Indians generally; many of them have already advanced far in civilization. Every means in the reach of the Government should be *judiciously* used for their improve-

ment. The schoolmaster should be sent abroad, and efforts be made to prepare them as rapidly as possible for citizenship.

I would here call your attention to a subject that is frequently pressed upon me by the parties concerned, namely: half-breed and Indian claimants for reservations of land. Many of the Pottawatomies are claiming reservations under various treaties; their lands are in the States of Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan; few of the Indians, I believe, are willing to occupy them. I understand that under the terms of some of the reservations, they cannot be sold without the action of Congress. I presume that it was the intention of the parties to the treaties that the Indians were to have the benefit of the lands reserved in that mode which would be most convenient to them. Does not justice require that Congress should pass a law authorizing the issue of patents to these reservees, with authority to sell? The interest of the Indians in all cases would be advanced by delivering to them patents for their reservations, with authority to dispose of them by sale; they would nine times in ten make a better sale with a patent than otherwise; the purchaser would buy with more confidence, and could afford to give a higher price, by being relieved from the trouble and expense of perfecting title.

The lands are said to be very much depreciated in value by trespassers taking off the timber. Many of the reservees are old and are anxious to receive a consideration for their reservations. It is greatly to be desired that some action be taken that will have a tendency to settle these long standing claims, and cut off this fruitful source of complaint.

The Kanzas half-breeds are desirous to sell their reservations to the government; few, if any of them, will occupy the lands, (though valuable.) Some of them are respectable members of society among the whites. The quantity reserved is not large.

Under the treaty of 15th July, 1830, with the Sacs and Foxes and other tribes, a portion of country between the two Nemahas, running back ten miles from the Missouri river, is set apart for the half-breeds of the Ottoes, Omahas, Iowas, and Yancton and Santie bands of Sioux. The time may not be distant when much difficulty may exist as to who are entitled to this reservation, the claimants being members of so many different tribes, and scattered over an extensive district of country. Should this reservation, at some future day, be embraced in a district subject to settlement by whites, the claims will then, if not before, be sought after by speculators, and similar difficulties may occur then to those that now exist in reference to the Sac and Fox reservation on the Des Moines, under the treaty of 1824. There are not now more than two or three squatters on the reservation. I would therefore respectfully suggest to the department the propriety of taking such measures as may be necessary to extinguish these half-breed claims.

Frequent difficulties have occurred during the spring of the last and present year, from the passing of emigrants for Oregon at various points into the Indian country. Large companies have frequently rendezvoused on the Indian lands for months previous to the period of their starting. The emigrants have two advantages in crossing into the Indian country at an early period of the spring: one, the facility of grazing their stock on the rushes with which the lands abound; and the other, that they cross the Missouri river at their leisure. In one instance, a large party had to

be forced by the military to put back. This passing of the emigrants through the Indian country without their permission, must, I fear, result in an unpleasant collision, if not bloodshed. The Indians say that the whites have no right to be in their country without their consent; and the upper tribes, who subsist on game, complain that the buffalo are wantonly killed and scared off, which renders their only means of subsistence every year more precarious.

For the safety of the emigrants and the tranquillity of the Indians, I would suggest that a right of way through such sections of country as may be deemed most convenient for laying out roads to Oregon be purchased of the Indian tribes owning the country. This was done with the Osages and Kanzas, when laying out the road to Santa Fe. In that event emigrants should be obliged strictly to confine themselves to the roads so purchased and laid out. With a view to carrying the foregoing into effect, I would respectfully recommend the establishment of the following roads or routes, viz: One to cross the Missouri river at St. Joseph's, which would pass through the Kickapoo, Iowa, and Sac and Fox countries; another to cross the same river at the Council Bluffs, and passing through the Pottawatomie, Ottoe, and Pawnee lands; and the third, from Westport, on the south side of the Missouri river, and passing through the lands of the Shawnees, Delawares, and Kanzas.

A small party of emigrants from Wisconsin, bound for Oregon, travelled across the country last spring, to the mouth of the Vermillion, on the Missouri. When they arrived there they concluded that it was too late to proceed, and determined to remain there until next spring, and with this view proceeded to plant corn, buckwheat, &c. I understand from persons familiar with the character of the Indians who frequent, in the winter, the neighborhood where this party is located, that their property, if not their persons, will be in great danger should they remain there until spring, as they contemplate. I have instructed agent Drips to point out to them the dangers of their situation, and to induce them, if possible, to fall back within the boundaries of Missouri, and winter there.

I would respectfully call your attention to the necessity of revising the intercourse law. It would appear from some portion thereof, that white persons are not to be permitted to be in the Indian country without permission of an officer of the Indian department. I can find no authority in the law for removing any citizen of the United States from the Indian country, if he be not violating the intercourse law by buying or selling contrary thereto, or holding improper councils with the Indians, unless the Indians themselves request his removal; very obnoxious persons might frequently and with ease obtain the permission of the Indians to remain in their country, when it would be difficult for the officer of the government to show that they were violating the law. The sections providing for the punishment of persons for violations of the intercourse law by selling or buying prohibited articles, are in effect a dead letter. Those who engage in illicit trade with the Indians are persons, as far as I have been informed, out of whom fines cannot be made. If the law was so amended as to imprison the offender when unable to pay the fine, it would doubtless have a salutary effect.

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Nothing, probably, is so deleterious to the improvement and civilization

of the Indians, as the frequent wars in which they are engaged with each other. It is true that there is no regular war, in the strict meaning of the term, waged by any of the tribes, but there are certain tribes between whom there seems to be a perpetual feud. The Osages and Kanzas on the south are the enemies of the Pawnees and Sioux on the north; their wars are carried on by small parties, who effect more by the stealthy manner in which they surprise and attack their enemy, than by their numbers or bravery. From the exposed position of the Pawnees they are compelled to guard their women while engaged in cultivating their corn, digging roots, and collecting wood; yet with all their vigilance there is scarcely a month that passes (unless in the extremity of winter) that some of their people do not fall by the tomahawk of their enemies. I believe it is exceedingly difficult for the chiefs of their respective nations to suppress their war parties. There are many circumstances of a superstitious character that induce them to go to war to obtain scalps, and probably not one of the least inducements is the indulgence of military ambition, as nothing gives a young warrior more eclat than success in taking scalps. I have been informed that a few weeks ago the Ottoes met the Pawnees and Arrapahoes on the plains, and that after feasting together, the Ottoes were suddenly attacked by the Pawnees and Arrapahoes, and lost about thirty killed—the Pawnees a small number. A part of the Ottoes, returning to their homes in the vicinity of the Council Bluff agency, came across four Pawnees (two men and two women) at Bellevue, whom they murdered on the spot by way of retaliation. What will be the termination of the affair it is difficult to say.

For the purpose of bringing about social intercourse, and establishing peace among the various tribes, I suggested in my last annual report the policy of convening a grand council of the different nations, to be held at some convenient point, and to be attended by some officer of the government. I have no doubt that such councils, frequently held, would produce a very salutary effect in checking war parties, and establishing peace and permanent friendship. A grand council is now being arranged to be held on the plains whenever a supply of buffalo can be had. The time is not yet fixed for the meeting, but I presume it will take place in October, or May, or June next. The council, I understand, has been called by the Creeks, for the purpose of adjusting difficulties among some of the nations, and establishing a general peace. All of the border tribes in this superintendency are invited, and I am informed will be represented in the council. They are anxious that their respective agents should accompany them. It is hoped that the labors of the council will produce happy results, by the adoption of conciliatory measures for the settling of all existing difficulties among themselves, which is very important at this time; and it is possible that the Indians may be able to manage such matters better than the government.

The Delawares, who are considered the bravest of the brave, have an unsettled difficulty with the Sioux for attacking and killing about thirty of their men while hunting in the Sioux country. They are waiting impatiently for some action on the part of the government, before they undertake to settle the difficulty themselves.

It has been represented to me by Mr. Cruttenden, the Osage subagent, that the Osages have informed him that during their summer

hunt they fell in with a party of Camanches, who had a considerable number of white prisoners, chiefly women and children; that they (the Osages) would have purchased a part of them, but that the Camanches would not trade for any thing but horses, which the Osages had not to spare. The Camanches, it is said, are hard masters to their prisoners; and the fact of their having a considerable number of such is confirmed by a statement recently made to me by Mr. Bent, a highly respectable gentleman and trader on the Arkansas. Col. Choteau, who traded a short time since on Red river, and who is also a gentleman of high standing, has informed me that he has seen among the Camanches that came to his trading establishment a number of white prisoners or slaves who had been United States citizens. He has given me also an account of revolting cruelties offered to these persons, which passed under his own observation. I shall instruct sub-agent Cruttenden to use his influence with the Osages to procure from the Camanches all the white prisoners they can, not doubting that the government will provide for their ransom. Mr. Cruttenden has further informed me that the Osages brought in with them a Mexican boy. A party of Osages observed several boys some distance from the camp of the Camanches; all ran off except the Mexican boy; he gave himself up to the Osages, with a request that they would permit him to go with them, stating that his master required more labor of him than he could perform, in taking care of horses. I would further remark that it is very common to meet with Mexicans among our border tribes in this superintendency, who are held as slaves: they are generally purchased from the Camanches.

I am unwilling to close this report without again bringing to your notice the great inequality existing in the salaries of the agents and sub-agents. Their duties, as you are aware, are the same; in many instances the pecuniary responsibility of the sub-agents is greater than that of some of the agents. The sub-agents are as independent of the agents as the agent is of the sub. I would respectfully recommend that the salary of the sub-agents be increased, so as to equal that of the agents; or if economy forbids this, that the amount now appropriated for agents and sub-agents be so distributed as to make their salaries equal, and bear some proportion to their respective services. This would give to each nearly eleven hundred dollars.

The distinction of sub should be abolished as a misnomer, being a distinction without a difference. All which is respectfully submitted.

I have the honor to be, sir, with great respect,

Your most obedient servant,

THOS. H. HARVEY,

Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

Hon. T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington City.

No. 22.

FORT LEAVENWORTH AGENCY,
September 15, 1845.

SIR: The time has arrived when it becomes my duty to make a report of the affairs within this agency.

Shawnees.—This tribe numbers, this year, 929. I think they may be called a civilized people; they depend for a subsistence entirely on agricultural pursuits, and generally raise an abundance to answer their wants. Last year, however, in consequence of an unusual wet season, their crops of all kinds failed. They farm very much after the manner of the whites, use the wagon or cart, and sometimes they plough with horses and sometimes with oxen. The men do the most of the labor on the farm; in some families the women assist; they raise corn, potatoes, cabbages, pumpkins, beans, peas, melons, and many kinds of garden vegetables, and some raise wheat and oats; they raise horses, cattle, hogs, and domestic fowls.

They have two smiths, that are engaged the year round in making and repairing agricultural implements. They do not permit their smiths to work on guns at any season of the year. The Shawnees are a sensible, industrious, enterprising, well-disposed people; they are at peace with all nations, and have no disposition to be otherwise; the moral law is the only one that exists among them, and, strange as it may appear, there is seldom a difficulty of a serious nature occurs among them; they have entirely abandoned their old customs of living in town or towns; at this time they have no town, each person settling at such place in their country as he may choose, never interfering with those that settle before him.

Schools.—The Methodist Missionary Society have a mission and keep up a manual labor school among the Shawnees. They have, this year, 137 male and female scholars from sundry tribes. For further particulars, I will refer you to statements Nos. 1 and 2, herewith enclosed, which show the number of scholars, male and female, from each tribe, the name, age, and time they entered the school, and progress made by each. In addition to the buildings heretofore reported at the Methodist M. L. school, they have now on hand a large brick building, foundation of stone. This building is 100 feet in length and twenty in width, two stories high, piazza the whole length, with the exception of a small room at each end taken off the piazza. This building is laid off into suitable rooms, and is intended for the female school. This building is now up to the square, and it is expected will be finished by the 25th day of December next.

The Society of Friends have a mission, and keep up a school among the Shawnees. They have 50 male and female scholars. For the particulars of this school I will refer you to their report, herewith enclosed, No. 3. This school is conducted on the manual labor plan. They have a large farm on which the Indian children labor a part of their time. They are at this time erecting a new house, 70 feet long and 20 wide, 3 stories high; basement of stone, the other two stories frame.

Delawares.—This tribe number 1,039. Take them as a tribe, they are not quite as well advanced in civilization as the Shawnees. The Delawares are a sensible, well-disposed people. Small hunting parties occasionally wend their way to the mountains, Santa Fe, Arkansas, and Red

rivers—visit the Camanche and other Indians. It is said by some traders that the Delawares go everywhere. They sometimes remain out for years. They are certainly brave and enterprising. They sometimes have difficulties with other tribes. I believe they always act on the defensive. Near three years since, a small party of 16 men, and one Pottawatomie with them, were hunting on the Neutral Ground between the Mississippi and Missouri rivers; when they were in the act of leaving their camps one morning, for another, they were fired on by a large party of Sioux. Seeing that some of their men were wounded, they spoke to the Pottawatomie; told him if he wished to make his escape, to do so; that they intended to fight by their wounded men as long as there was one of them alive, which they did; the Pottawatomie was the only one of the party that escaped to tell the news. Something over one year since, a party of 15 were trapping for otter on the head waters of the Kanzas river, between the Arkansas and Platte rivers, and were attacked by a large party of Sioux and Cheyennes. The Delawares stood their ground, and fought until the last man was killed. They have had three or four other persons killed by the Sioux. For the outrageous acts of the Sioux, the Delawares have never attempted to revenge themselves; and the only reason why they have not, is because they do not wish to offend or disobey their great Father, the President of the United States, but say, before they attempt to revenge themselves, they will wait and see if their great Father will compel the Sioux to make reparation for the murders committed, and the horses, mules, and other property taken at the time their people were murdered. These hunting parties of the Delawares sometimes make rich returns of beaver and otter, but it seems to do them but little good; the most of them soon make way with the proceeds. There is, however, a large portion of the tribe that remain at home, who never hunt, and are engaged in agriculture. Take the whole tribe together, they generally raise a sufficiency to subsist on. The women do a large portion of the work on the farm. In many families, however, the women do not work on the farm; they raise corn, pumpkins, peas, beans, cabbages, potatoes, and many kinds of garden vegetables; some few raise wheat and oats. They have lately had built, out of their own means, a good saw and grist mill, with two run of stones, one for corn and the other for wheat. Their mills are of superior order—good bolting apparatus, screen, fan, and elevaters, all complete. There is a constant stream called the Stranger, in their country, that affords excellent water privileges. On this stream their mills are built. Its location, north and south, is about the centre of their country, and about ten miles west of the Missouri river. They have other streams besides the one above mentioned, that afford constant water privileges.

Kickapoos.—This tribe number 516. They have progressed faster in civilization than any tribe I have any knowledge of, particularly in agriculture. Twelve or thirteen years ago, they had never made a rail or cut a cabin log, or had a plough among them. They are located a short distance north or northwest of Fort Leavenworth. The latter place affords them a market for all the vegetables, chickens, eggs, pigs, venison, and corn that they have to spare. The officers of Fort Leavenworth have been kind to them, as well as to the Indians generally. They not only buy themselves, but they suffer the Indians to sell all such vegetables to the troops as they may wish to buy. For several years past, their present

trader, W. H. Hildreth, has purchased from them all their corn, pork, beef, hides, and all kinds of skins, that they had to spare; and they supplied him with a considerable quantity, especially of corn, until the last year, when their crops failed in consequence of the very wet season. They raise corn, potatoes, beans, peas, pumpkins, cabbages, and many kinds of garden vegetables. Almost any thing raised by them to spare, their trader will purchase of them. They made an attempt last year to raise hemp, but their crops were destroyed by the wet season.

Christian Indians.—This is a small band of mixed Indians. Munsees, and a few Delawares. They number 208. They are located on the Delaware land, on the north bank of the Kanzas river, 8 or 10 miles above its junction. The Missionary Society of Moravians have established a mission among these people. The most of the Indians are members of that society, and to the society I think belongs the credit of civilizing, christianizing, and educating many of them. I must here remark, that the missionaries who have labored among them here I consider among the best of people, and they will receive all the encouragement that I am able to give them. This band of Indians are generally sensible and well-disposed; they are industrious. The most of them made their farms on bottom lands, and all their crops of every kind were swept off last year by the freshets, and many of them have shared the same fate this year; many of them returned to their old farms on the bottom lands, and were swept off again.

This year an old Delaware man, who is considered a good man and a Christian, said he did not pity them; that God told them last year to leave the bottom land, and that one telling from God was enough. Notwithstanding their disobedience, I pity them. They had to scuffle hard last year to make a subsistence. As it has turned out, it would have been much better for them if they had started anew at some other place on the high lands. Many of them, as I before stated, are industrious, and are good hands in the harvest fields. They got this year and last, from the whites, one dollar per day for harvesting. By their labor they had to make a subsistence for themselves and families. The small pittance they received from the government was of great relief to them; it afforded them bread stuff while they were pitching their crops that were swept off by the freshets this year.

Kanzas.—This tribe number 1,607. As usual, they follow the chase. They visit the buffalo grounds once and sometimes twice a year. I regret that I have to say that they have made but little progress in agriculture, except this and last year. They have generally raised a sufficient quantity of Indian corn to answer their wants. Their present farmer has not been long among them. I believe he has used his best efforts to induce them to turn their attention to agricultural pursuits, and rendered them all the assistance he could. The great difficulty seems to be in getting them started. They have neither hogs nor cattle, and are compelled to go to the buffalo grounds for meat; this they have been in the habit of doing ever since they have known themselves. They raise the Indian corn, pumpkins, beans, and some melons; with but few exceptions, this is done by the women. A few of the men have learned how to use the plough. Last year they broke up their ground—some of them more than they had usually cultivated. From the Kanzas river, after they had laid their corn

by, and were fixing to start to the buffalo grounds, the freshet came and destroyed all or nearly all their crops, as they had but little planted in the high lands. The Kanzas are very poor and very ignorant; they and the Pawnees are always at war. I believe they are at peace with all other tribes. I consider them the most hospitable Indians that I have any knowledge of. They will sometimes ask a white man, that they have respect for, to eat almost every hour in the day. They never turn off hungry white or red, if they have any thing to give them; and they will continue to give as long as they have any thing to give. The Kanzas are a stout, active, lively people; I believe they have more children among them in proportion to their numbers than any other tribe known to me.

Stockbridges.—This little band number about 60. They are located near the Missouri river, about 6 miles below Fort Leavenworth, on lands belonging to the Delaware Indians. They may be said to be a civilized people. All, or nearly all, men, women and children, speak the English language. Their people are very industrious; almost every family have a neat house, built of hewn logs, all done by themselves. Each family has a farm under good rail fence. They generally raise an abundance of grain, Indian corn, potatoes, cabbages, pumpkins, peas, beans, and many other kinds of garden vegetables. They also raise horses, cattle, hogs, and domestic fowls. Fort Leavenworth affords them a market. Almost every family has fixed a good root house, for the purpose of keeping all kinds of vegetables through the winter. It is unfortunate for them that they were not located on lands where they would have been permitted to remain. If they are removed from the Delaware lands, they will, of course, lose all their improvements, and have to begin anew.

Schools.—These people have a respectable missionary family located among them, by the Baptist board of foreign missions, and a school part of the last year of 15 male and female scholars.

I will remark that the missionaries who now are and have heretofore been located within this agency deserve great credit for their untiring efforts to improve the condition of the Indians. It certainly is not a pleasant situation. At the same time, I do not think that missionaries undergo the privations and sufferings within this agency that I have heard spoken of in other places.

In conclusion, I have the gratification to say, that during the whole of the time I have had the care of the Indians within this agency, there has not a difficulty of a serious nature of any kind occurred between the Indians and whites.

I am, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

RICHARD W. CUMMINS,
Indian Agent.

Major T. H. HARVEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Missouri.

No. 23.

UPPER MISSOURI AGENCY, *August* 27, 1845.

SIR: In compliance with the regulation of the Indian department, I have the honor to submit the following report:

The Sioux Indians of this agency are numerous, and scattered over a large tract of country; they live entirely upon buffalo, and are found during the winter months principally on the Missouri or its tributaries—the remainder of the year they are on a large tract of country between the Missouri and Platte, in search of subsistence. These Indians, since the spirituous liquor has been kept from them, have changed very much; they are now in large villages, and are apparently much better satisfied. They are generally well disposed towards the whites.

The Mandans, Arickarees, and Grosventres live in dirt villages, and generally raise large quantities of corn, pumpkins, and beans, but seldom leave their homes in search of buffalo; and they are also friendly disposed towards the whites.

The Assinaboines depend entirely on buffalo for their living in the winter; and generally are found on the Missouri, near the mouth of the Yellow Stone, where they exchange their robes, &c., for such articles as they need. They are, as usual, friendly disposed to the whites.

In January last I came across a village of Cheyennes; their country lies between the Arkansas and north fork of Platte river. They are also a wandering tribe, and depend entirely on game for their subsistence. They are very anxious to have an agent with them. They say their great Father the President must have forgotten them entirely. They are well disposed towards the whites.

It is a great misfortune that so many free white people are permitted to live amongst the Indians; it has the bad effect of making the Indians think lightly of all whites.

I am, with much respect, your very obedient servant,

ANDREW DRIPPS,
Indian Agent.

THOS. H. HARVEY, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis.

No. 24.

OSAGE SUB-AGENCY, *September* 1, 1845.

SIR:

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I entered upon the duties as sub-agent in the month of September last. * * * * * * * *

During the past year but little improvement can be discovered among the Osages; but I flatter myself that the ground work of some change has been and is about to be laid, that will, if properly persevered in, make itself known in due time. In December last I was directed to have twenty-one houses built for certain chiefs and head men of the nation, according to the treaty of January 11, 1839. Consequently, I made a contract, after having given public notice, in which I specified what kind of houses I presumed the amount appropriated would build. I however succeeded in making a contract so much lower than I anticipated, that it left a considerable surplus remaining, and I proposed to the Indians to have it laid out in fencing a field and breaking the prairie; they appeared to be all satis-

fied as well as pleased at the idea of having a field about their houses, which they said looked like the white people. But, much to my disappointment and regret, I soon found that other influences had been at work, and had already wrought such a change in many of the Indians about their houses, that they came and requested that all their money should be expended on their houses. I found that their pride had been touched upon by giving them to understand that they, as chiefs and head men, ought to have large houses to live in, &c. I therefore thought it best to gratify them. Accordidgly, I made a new contract, in which all the money appropriated is to be expended on their houses. There are some, however, of the chiefs who still adhere to the first contract, and will have a field, &c. I had hoped that this would have had some effect in turning some of them in a measure towards farming. The two or three past seasons have been such in this country that all those that planted their corn on the river bottoms have lost it; it has therefore become necessary for them to plant on the prairie, to do which at first will cost them much labor, having no teams or suitable ploughs to break the prairie with. If some encouragement should be granted to any thus circumstanced, I think it would do a great deal of good. There are others, though I confess they are but few, that would take good care of oxen, wagons, and tools, &c., necessary for farming, which I should be glad to have them furnished with, as this, it appears, is the only manner they are to be operated upon.

The corn that the government directed to be purchased for the Indians was very gratefully received, and added much to their comfort; but, owing to the mildness of the winter, which enabled the Indians to stay out much longer on their hunt than usual, some of the band, especially those that live on the Verdigris, remained out until near spring; consequently they were not so entirely destitute as we had reason to apprehend they would be. I regretted extremely that we had no mill to grind their corn; they would willingly and frequently offer to give two bushels of corn for one of meal. There is no one thing at this time that, in my opinion, would be so likely to turn the attention of the Indians towards farming as to have a mill sufficient to grind their wheat and corn; a saw mill would be of little use for many years to come. The half-breeds are mostly in the nation, and all of them are preparing for farming. A mill to them is all important; and I hope I shall have the pleasure of seeing measures taken, in order that they may be furnished with such an one as will answer the purposes of the Osages, which can be done at a moderate expense. Your instructions respecting the establishment of the manual labor school among the Osages was received by me in June last. I took steps immediately preparatory to putting the object in a train of execution, and such measures have been taken as will, I think, insure the completion of the buildings in such a manner as to be ready for the commencement of the school by the first of January next. The situation of the site I think judiciously made, being high and healthy.

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The condition of the Osages generally throughout the past year has been as comfortable as their manner of life and indolent dispositions will allow. They have been generally healthy, although many cases of consumption have taken place among them—confined, however, mostly to the females, which is easily accounted for by the barbarous treatment they receive,

being compelled to perform all the labor as well as all the drudgery of camp. The living of the Osages consists chiefly of buffalo meat dried, which they go out twice a year to the western prairie to obtain; they raise some corn, planted in small patches on the river bottoms and creeks, which they consume generally while it is in its green state, leaving little or none for winter. This year those that planted on the river bottoms lost all their crops; those on the creeks that have escaped the flood will have a good crop, if the horses do not destroy it; they make little or no fences to protect it. All is chance with the Osages about raising corn.

It was reported to me that the Osages, while out on their late hunt, fell in with a party of Camanches, who appeared very friendly and invited them to eat with them, and with whom a considerable trade took place. The Osages say they saw a great many white prisoners among them (Camanches) of both sexes, old and young; that they could have bought numbers of them if they had had the means to pay for them. The Camanches offered to exchange them for horses, but they had none to give them. An Osage, however, succeeded in getting possession of one, a Spanish boy about 12 or 14 years of age. I had the boy brought to me, but he could give me no information respecting his origin; but I have no doubt of his being a Mexican. In color he is but little brighter than the Indians; and from what I could understand from him, he was anxious to get away from the Camanches; that his mother treated him badly, requiring more work of him than he could do. The Osage that has him says he will take good care of him, and treat him as his own child. I therefore thought it best to let him remain where he is, until I receive orders from the department. This is a subject, it appears to me, that calls for some action on the part of the government. There are no doubt a great many white children stolen from the Texans, among the Camanche Indians, which it would be an act of humanity to restore to civilized life.

Of the habits of the Osages, I wish I could say something more in their favor; the indolence, especially of the men, (which is well known) and their love for whiskey, which it appears almost impossible to keep from them, are the most important evils that I have to contend with. If these could be subdued, the Osages might be very comfortable; their wants are few and easily satisfied. If they could be induced to turn their attention [to agriculture,] they could in a short time be made comfortable and happy. It appears to me important that every influence that can be brought to bear upon the subject should be put in exercise to bring about so desirable an object. The following appears to me to be the most likely means that can be advanced at this time to bring about a change in the habits of the Indians so much to be desired. In the first place, I have great hopes that [they will follow] the examples of the half-breeds, who have within the last year come into the nation, bringing with them considerable stocks of horses, hogs, &c., and permanently located themselves, built themselves houses, fenced fields, and are making preparation to plant corn, &c. This class of people ought to be encouraged and sustained. as much good may be obtained from them; they are generally poor, and for a year or so will require all their energies to support themselves; but after that, they may be very comfortable. There are a few individuals in the nation at this time who, if they could be assisted and encourged in regard to farming, would very soon become respectable far-

mers; they have already considerable fields—some enclosed and some not; have a large number of horses, but no oxen. If the agent or some other person could be authorized, when they saw such a person or Indian who had made considerable progress in farming, to be furnished with a pair of oxen, a cart, and a plough, if he should want them, I think such a power used with discretion might do good. The next thing is a mill;* the Osages labor under very great disadvantages for the want of a mill to grind their corn; there is none nearer than 60 or 70 miles, which is too far to be of any use to them. The half-breeds also might raise considerable quantities of wheat by next year, if they had a mill to grind it. The Indians are very fond of flour, and will obtain it if they can, even should they have to go 60 or 70 miles, which they do frequently from necessity; but if there was a mill in the nation, it would induce them to raise wheat themselves; their corn they prefer to have ground into meal than to use it in the way they do now. As there are no mill seats in the Osage country, I could recommend to have a water mill built upon. The streams are either too large or too small. I would suggest the propriety of having one erected on the Gentry patent plan, to be propelled by ox or horse power. From inquiries that I have made, a mill after the above plan would, if properly put up, answer all the wants of the Osages for many years to come. As for a saw-mill, there will be but little use for one some years in comparison with a grist-mill, though it would be useful to have one if it could be attached to the grist-mill, and moved by the same power. All of which is respectfully submitted.

Very respectfully,

JOEL CRUTTENDEN,
Osage Sub-agent.

MAJ. THOS. H. HARVEY,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs,
St. Louis, Missouri.

No. 25.

COUNCIL BLUFFS SUB-AGENCY,
July 24, 1845.

SIR: * * * * * * * *

The unsettled condition of the "Chippewas, Ottowas, and Pottawatomies," of whom I have charge, has operated during the past year to retard their improvement. No community standing in the relation of mere tenants at the will of a higher power, as may be said to be virtually the case of these Indians, can be expected to make much progress from savage to civilized life, however benign the sway of the higher power may be. The principle of individual property, of accumulation, cannot have its necessary operation—and it is the foundation of civilization. Say what we may of high principles, brotherly love, and religion—and they are as beautiful to the contemplation as they are beneficial in experience—yet we must confess that, as regards the mass of mankind, social advancement is founded on the selfish principle of individual welfare. To promote that advancement among Indians, we must encourage, by all proper

* Ordered September 10th.

means, the operation of this principle. We must give them not only permanent houses as tribes, but, as soon as possible, we must permit something in the nature of fee simple rights in individuals to attach to appropriate and allotted parts of their national domain. These will give a settlement to the family, and affect the habits of all its members. A permanent home once selected and established, the individual will, in due course of time, rejoice in the difference between the fireside scenes of a neat and comfortable cottage, and those of an Indian lodge. Home comforts and enjoyments will cluster around him, acting as a constant stimulus to exertion, because they are a certain reward of it. Relics of barbarism will melt away as the influences of a better existence are experienced, and the vague superstitions which now cloud the minds of these children of nature, and chill many of their finer feelings, will fade before the light and warmth of true religion. The agent in charge will then have before him the delightful spectacle of a people really emerging from the rude condition of hunters and fishers, to the more elevated character of agriculturists, mechanics, and merchants, and even the higher professions proper to refined society.

This is no fancy sketch. If any thing can be done with Indians, in regard to civilization—and we know that much has already been done—it may all, in due season, be accomplished. But we must not be impatient. It is a great work of national reformation and re-organization, and it will require time, faith, energy, and labor. The hope and expectation of its accomplishment are not entertained as vain dreams, but are founded on a correct judgment of the Indian character.

The spectacle of the government of the United States regularly pursuing a course calculated to effect such objects as I have alluded to, for all the Indian tribes who have emigrated, or are yet to emigrate to the appropriate Indian territory on the great western frontier—the assigned home of existing thousands, and thousands yet to exist—of a people whom the history of the world would have justified us in exterminating, and who have few claims upon us but those of common humanity, and such as our generosity has prompted, rather than strict justice required us to admit, is as singular in the action of powerful nations as it is noble and proper in itself. Our government has recognised their rights to the occupancy of the soil we have already purchased from them, and has treaty with them, though a conquered people, measurably as equals; has consigned to oblivion the acts of past treachery and cruelty of which the red race has been guilty towards the whites, and then, voluntarily assuming towards them the relation of guardian to simple and helpless wards, has at considerable expense conducted their business and advanced their interests, so that all those tribes with whom it has had most to do are now in a much better condition, as regards all the means of existence, if they would but make use of them, than any of their forefathers have ever been. This policy seems to present more sublime features than the policy toward a conquered enemy of any other people of whom we have any record. The course of our British neighbors has certainly in it something equally magnanimous and attractive; and I have deemed it proper to allude to the subject here, because many of our citizens unacquainted with the actual relations subsisting between the government and the Indians are prone to expend their sympathies upon the latter, as if grievously outraged and oppressed by the former.

Soon after the payment of annuities in this sub-agency last fall, it was rumored here that a negotiation was to be opened for the purchase of these lands. Owing to the unaccountable delay of a letter written to me on the 14th September, from Westport, Mo., by the superintendent of Indian affairs, I was without official advice on the subject; and as the Indians were fast scattering to their fall and winter hunts, I considered it my duty to visit St. Louis, in October, to consult with him, and present my reasons for believing that the negotiation should be postponed till spring. He did not visit us last fall, and was accordingly expected during the spring. There was consequently but little done in the way of extending agricultural improvements, even among those who would become tolerable farmers if permanently settled.

In this I refer more particularly to the half-breeds, as, in the present transition state of this people (in regard to habits as well as houses) they alone, save a very few exceptions, appear willing to bring themselves down to a regular agricultural life, with its constant toils and cares. The full-blood Indians who have not been taught better, but have grown up to the idle, roving habits of their ancestors, will not labor regularly or effectively; and many of them, perverse as it may seem, would actually consider it derogatory to their dignity to do so. A few of them do a little work, and make some feeble attempts at farming operations, in the white man's way; but the majority prefer an idle, listless life of smoking and sleeping, so long as they have any thing to eat, or hunting and visiting among their better supplied neighbors when the larder is empty. Nor need we look for much better habits, so long as the youth of both sexes are left to such training as they now experience.

As it is, however, there are more acres now in cultivation in this sub-agency than have ever been at any former times, and the crops promise an abundant yield. The corn generally was planted about the last of April, which we find to be the best time for planting here; and the season has been so favorable that the growth is remarkably fine. Potatoes, beans, and all the garden vegetables, look well. We have had new potatoes for some weeks, and the green corn is just becoming fit for use.

The soil is exuberantly fertile, and a very little labor will produce an abundant supply of all articles of subsistence. A small lot of wheat, sown last fall, has done very well.

The troops at Old Council Bluffs formerly raised large crops of this grain, and the soil and climate seem to be as well adapted to it as they are to Indian corn. Hemp also would come to great perfection here.

Horned cattle grow larger on the prairie grass in this region than any cattle on the range, that I have ever seen. The grass is exceedingly nutricious, and the cattle can be wintered in good condition on the rushes that grow in many places on the Missouri bottoms. But the Indians do not, as a general thing, raise either cattle or hogs. They prefer to depend on the chase and their annuities for subsistence. I do not suppose there are one hundred head of horned cattle owned by full-blooded Indians in this sub-agency. They generally have a plentiful supply of horses, which subsist themselves in the winter on twigs, bark, and dry grass, and are at that season usually off with their owners on hunting expeditions. There is a wild-pea vine here in the woods, on which horses get very fat in the fall; and as the snows are not very deep or long continued, the ponies do bet-

ter on the range in the winter, than a stranger would suppose. Most of the half-breeds have cattle and hogs, and both Indians and half-breeds raise poultry in considerable numbers.

I have before reported that the Pottawatomie lands here are not well timbered; and the little timber that we have is every year becoming less, by the constant burning of the prairies and woods in the fall and winter. The fires in the woods are, at times, very violent, owing to the rank growth of grass, weeds, and underbrush; and in this way hundreds of trees are killed every year. The deadened trees become dry, and whether standing or fallen, add to the intensity of the succeeding conflagration.

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You have already, I presume, had before you the report of the council held by Maj. Harvey with these Indians, as commissioner to treat for their lands. The Indians, having made a proposal to the government, seem to consider the negotiation still open, and expect that if their proposal should be rejected, the rejection of it will be followed by another offer on the part of the government. They have given their asking price, but I do not think it is their minimum; nor do they seem to believe that the offer of the government by Major Harvey was its ultimatum. The chiefs were not inaptly styled "veterans in diplomacy," by the commissioner at the council, as they have managed only to commit themselves to a proposition from which they may at a future time recede somewhat without serious injustice to themselves.

All the most sensible of the full-blood Indians desire to be permanently settled, and are anxious to treat; but they are equally solicitous that the terms shall be favorable to their nation. It will probably be the last treaty they will ever make, and they naturally desire to make the best bargain possible. In the mean time, the uncertainty as to the length of time they are to remain here operates very hardly on those of the half-breeds and others who desire to make themselves good homes, and they are impatient under the delay.

As the Sacs and Foxes must soon remove, the Pottawatomies will soon be exposed to a frontier of whites on the east, which will, in all probability, like that of Missouri on the south, contain many individuals who will devote themselves, by illicit traffic, to the destruction of the red race; while their acts of cruel fraud, meanness, and plunder, will disgrace our own. This state of things will constitute another strong reason for the removal of these Indians to a better home, where the beneficial policy of the government may be carried out towards them, without so many circumstances to thwart and frustrate it.

In my report for 1843, I stated that no distinction is recognised or observed among these Indians on account of their origin from different nations, but that they all describe themselves as "Pottawatomies," by which name they are known among their Indian neighbors. Though there are individuals here of Ottowa as well as Chippewa ancestry, yet they are so few in number that the official designation of the band, as fixed by the treaties of 29th July, 1829, and 26th September, 1833, is now little better than a misnomer. There are also individuals among them of Sioux, Menomonie, and Sac blood, but they are all classed here as "Pottawatomies." This is the name which the bands here and those south of the Missouri ought to bear, and I presume that measures will be pursued to effect their

union into one nation, at least so far as their name, the possession of their domain, and the distribution of their funds are concerned. These fragments constitute all that is left of what was formerly the Pottawatomie tribe. It has, in the course of time, become thus divided and broken up by the policy of the government (necessarily pursued) in making treaties, at different times, with different bands of portions of the tribe. Considerable jealousy and distrust have grown up between the bands here and those south of Missouri, and I think it will be difficult to effect their harmonious re-union, without some concessions to the feelings or prejudices of the people here; but if they be gratified in some respects, it may possibly be accomplished. They object strongly to the country in the Osage river sub-agency, but would be satisfied to meet and join their brethren in a country on the Kanzas, if the price of their lands should afford what they would consider an adequate support for the entire body of Pottawatomies.

The number in this sub-agency being about 2,000 souls, and the number in the Osage river sub-agency, (as I understand from unofficial sources) including the Wabash Pottawatomies, about 2,300, the distributive share of cash annuities to each individual, after their removal and union, would be at least as large as that of each individual here at present. A knowledge of this fact among some of the people here has softened them down a good deal, and disposed them more favorably towards the proposed union than they were some time ago.

I think it is to be regretted that, at the late council, Maj. Harvey was not authorized to grant some things heretofore requested by those Indians, as in that case it is my opinion that more progress would, perhaps, have been made in regard to the treaty. I have, on former occasions, remarked that their confidence in the good faith of the government was considerably shaken, (unjustly enough,) and the minutes of the council held by Maj. Harvey will show that I was correct. However manifest it may be to those who know of all the facts of the case, that their complaints are, in a great measure, ill-founded, yet the distrust has existed, and still to some extent exists, among them; and it has been a source of regret to me that I have not been able entirely to remove it. I think, however, that it will probably soon die away, as some of the moving causes of it are now virtually taken away, and the Indians, freed from some improper influences, are beginning to think and reason for themselves. They certainly have no ground to charge the government with having acted in bad faith towards them, in abstaining from an improper use of their funds until they are more permanently settled; yet from the fact of one or two things, which they have much desired, being heretofore (on prudential considerations) withheld by the department, some of them have really feared that the government intended to act falsely, and refused any fulfilment of the treaty stipulations.

One of the causes of dissatisfaction depending on the action of Congress, it is proper to have it again brought before that body. In some of the treaties sections and parts of sections of land have been "reserved" to individual Indians and half-breeds. It having been decided that a "reserve" gives an Indian only a title to the occupancy of the land, or use of it, the reservees have found themselves unable to dispose of what were believed by them to be absolute and unconditional grants. They

cannot understand the difference between a fee simple and an usufructury interest, and hence are apt to conclude that the government does not intend them to have the land at all.

I would respectfully suggest the inquiry whether the issuing of the patents to each reservee would not be the easiest (as it would certainly be an equitable) mode of disposing of the whole difficulty. We intrust the Indian with the disposition of his annuity moneys;—why not intrust him equally with the disposal of his lands? Many sections of reserved and granted lands, in Illinois, have lain undisposed of till their value has become much impaired by the destruction of the timber. Trespassers swarm upon them.

We have no schools or missionaries among the Pottawatomies here. I think a well-ordered missionary establishment would do much good; not simply, however, by preaching to Indians, nor even by teaching them letters, but by combining other education with these objects. You will please understand me as always having in view an institution embracing the industrial, manual arts, and household duties, on the part of the males, when I speak of a *school* in the Indian country. These are not only necessary to be taught, but are essential to the due improvement of the red race. And such schools ought to be under the management of gentlemen and ladies who are not only qualified in other respects, but who have determined to devote their lives to the service. Enlightened missionaries, persons of cultivated minds and enlarged views, who can rise superior to the bigotry of sectarianism, and act on the broadest principles of christianity and philanthropy—these are the proper hands to which an Indian school may be intrusted with safety and advantage.

As to the policy of spending Indian school funds at a distance from the Indian country, I must beg leave to report, that I cannot but consider it in many respects disadvantageous. This subject, however, is so well understood, that extended remarks upon it would be superfluous. The Indians dislike to let their children go, especially when the expense is borne from their own means. Nor is the improvement of the pupils, at such schools, an adequate return for the outlay. The same money, judiciously expended on each pupil at a properly organized school in the Indian country, would be productive of a much greater amount of good, not only in the education of the individuals, but through the influence of example on others. Good as well as bad examples are, to some extent, contagious; and by having a good school among them, the Indians might in time be induced to take a pride in it, and to prize it for its results as their greatest treasure.

In order effectively to change the nature of the Indian—for to teach him the arts of civilized life, and induce him to abandon the habits of his ancestors for ours, almost amounts to a change of his nature—it is so manifest and has been so often said that he must be operated upon when very young, that it seems like the repetition of a commonplace remark to renew the suggestion. Yet, as connected with the great object of the government, it is important to educate him properly; he must be kept, as much as possible, apart from all the examples and occupations of Indian life, until able to judge of the superior advantages of the habits we wish him to adopt. He must be dressed in the costume of the white man, and taught to use the axe, to make fence and plough, to plant, cure, and husband the different crops, to take

care of stock, and to work at the carpenter's, miller's, smith, and other trades. The same course of training, in pursuits suitable for them, must be adopted with the girls. In this way you can train up men and women whom you may hope will, through life, remain in some measure true to their early teachings; and this cannot be so well accomplished at any other school as at one in the Indian country, where the ridicule of their unlettered brethren—which is a thing grievous to be borne, and very prevalent among Indians—can be met and lived down by the pupils as they progress in knowledge, better than it can be endured by those educated abroad. But if the children are not taken young, but are suffered to grow up with all the wild, lazy, and improvident habits of untutored Indians, it is a hopeless task to attempt their reformation, when past the period of early youth. The most that you may then expect from them is, that they will *believe* the white man's mode of life to be the best, while they themselves, true to the instincts of their nature, will live out the listless and profitless life of the Indian. To attempt to inform the minds of such people and make Christians of them, is a waste and effort almost as vain as to attempt the caging of the winds.

The residence of industrious white men in the Indian country, when intermarried with the Indians, is useful in promoting civilization. We do not look for the perpetuity of a pure-blooded Indian race. That is already impossible; and as the children of white men with Indian wives follow the condition of the mother, and are members of the tribe, it does not seem improper to permit such connexions in cases where the general conduct of the white man is unobjectionable. Whatever advances the Pottawatomies have made towards civilization have been promoted in a greater degree by the intermixture of whites with the tribe, than any other cause. These carry with them the habits of our race; and though the standard of imitation which they constitute for the Indians may not be considered high, yet it is for that reason the more attainable by the latter.

Their houses and farms are constant examples, and they are able to do much in teaching agriculture in a simple and rude manner. It also seems that the issue of mixed blood, arising from such connexions, is much better fitted to adopt our habits than full-blood Indians. The half-breeds, men and women, among the Pottawatomies, all wear the dress of the whites, and adopt our mode of life so far as their knowledge and means enable them to do so. The half-breed women almost invariably marry white men, if they can get them, and do their best to rank as good housewives; but it is a little singular that the half-breed men, while they build houses, make small farms, and dress and live like the whites, generally marry full-blood Indian women. A full-blood Indian woman, (at least among the Pottawatomies here,) with a white man or half-breed as a husband, always dresses her children, so far as she knows how, after the fashion of the whites, and generally observes the same rule in herself.

The licensed traders in this sub-agency conform to the intercourse laws, and abstain from improper interference with the business of the government. I have no censure to pass upon them, but find generally that they manage their interests much on the same principle that merchants do elsewhere.

* * * * * * * * *

We have lately had many alarms of danger from the Sioux Indians; but I can hardly realize the idea that the danger is imminent, though we are by no means safe from attack. The Sioux are aware that we have no military force here, and the traders from up the river say that their feelings towards the Pottawatomies are very bitter.

The Sioux are hostile towards the Pawnees, Omahas, Ottoes, and Pottawatomies. The Pawnees and Ottoes are now at war. I have made special report on their difficulties. The Ottoes are now in a very destitute condition, and many have difficulties with the settlers below the line, or with the Pottawatomies, as their destitution may drive them to commit depredations. A day or two ago they asked leave of the Pottawatomies to dance the scalp dance on this side of the river, in commemoration of the Pawnee scalps taken at Bellevue on the 14th inst., and one since taken by a war party which visited the Pawnee villages; but the Pottawatomies declined the request, stating that they did not desire that ceremony to be performed on their land. At this and the assistance furnished by our people to a few scattering Pawnees here, the Ottoes may take offence.

The feelings of the Pottawatomies towards them are not very friendly. Feuds are, in fact, brewing among all the Indians in this region, and a general fight, though not very probable, is not a very remote possibility.

The Pottawatomies are much afraid of the Sioux, against whom they have petitioned the government, in pursuance of its pledges, to protect them.

In addition to all this, the authority of the government is openly contemned by the whiskey dealers and horse thieves, who hover along the frontier like ill-omened birds of prey, to seize the property of the Indians by any means which will place it in their power. In regard to spirituous liquors, the laws and regulations of the department are, in a great measure, a dead letter. The grog shops along the line in the State of Missouri furnish the Indians as much as they desire, if they choose to go for it, which they often do. In this way more injury is done, than if the articles were kept in the regular course of trade by the licensed traders; for when an Indian gets into one of those grog-shops, literally "dens of thieves," he does not get away until he has got rid of horse, saddle, blanket, gun, and whatever property he may have with him, if the dealer can possibly make him drunk enough to carry on the plunder effectually. To supply those who do not choose to go for it, messengers are sent with kegs on horseback, and a revel at the wigwam or village follows. To expect an agent, alone and unaided, without any military force, to put a stop to all this, is preposterous. What can you do by "moral suasion" even among the whites, where strong passions and base appetites are to be restrained? And how much less among a rude people, such as the unlettered, untaught Indians! No—we must have the "strong arm of power;" we must cut off the supply of liquor, by preventing the Indians from going for it, and by expelling the dealers from their neighborhood. * * * *

In view of the facts alluded to in the two preceding paragraphs, I have before recommended the establishment of a military post in this region. In this I have but coincided both with the late and present superintendent of Indian affairs. Still deeming an establishment necessary, I renew the recommendation. * * * * * * * * *

The office of this sub-agency is located at Point Aux Poulos, on the northeast bank of the Missouri river, about twenty miles below the mouth of Boyer's river, and opposite Bellevue, as marked on the map. The distance by land to the Missouri State line is about thirty-five miles. High Creek post office, in Atcheson (late Holt) county, Missouri, is the nearest, and is distant about 55 miles. By an act of the last Congress, the extension of the mail line to Huntsecker's ferry, on the Nishenobotna, ten miles nearer this place, was authorized, and I suppose the new route will soon go into operation. The three trading houses of this sub-agency are at Point Aux Poules.

The mill under the treaty of September 26, 1833, and the smith shop under the treaty of July 29, 1827, have done good service for the Chippewas, Ottowas, and Pottawatomies, during the past year. On the first of July instant, I was authorized by the superintendent of Indian affairs to organize an additional shop under the treaty of 26th September, 1833, which I have done so far as to employ a smith and striker. The smith finds his own tools for the present, and the striker is engaged in preparing coal and other necessary out-door work. We expect to receive a regular outfit of materials and stock in a few weeks. In the mean time the smith is engaged in repairing guns, kettles, and traps, and such other work as does not require much iron and steel. * * * *

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

RICHARD S. ELLIOTT,

Indian Sub-agent.

T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD, Esq.,
Commissioner Indian Affairs.

No. 26.

OSAGE RIVER SUB-AGENCY, *September* 20, 1845.

SIR: In obedience to the regulations of the Indian department, I have now the honor to submit my annual report of the affairs of this sub agency, and of the condition of the Indians subject to my charge.

You are aware that in the years 1843 and 1844, no regular report of this sub agency was forwarded to the department, in consequence of the absence of any regularly appointed officer. Since the report of Major A. L. Davis, in 1842, the office of the sub agency has been removed from the lands of the Weas, and is now situated at a central point. Within the country assigned the Pottawatomies, good and substantial buildings have been erected for the use of the sub-agents, and the funds appropriated for that purpose have been faithfully and economically disbursed.

There are five tribes of Indians located in this sub agency, viz: Pottawatomies, Ottowas, a small band of Chippewas, Peorias, and Kaskaskias, and the Weas and Piankeshaws—the last four named being part of the family of the Miamies. The number of individuals comprising each tribe cannot be correctly ascertained until the ensuing annual payments, which will take place early next month. I beg to state that the payments have been deferred for a few weeks, in consequence of the prevalence of almost general sickness throughout this sub-agency, even at the present time. I

believe it would be impossible to collect more than one half of the Indians were I now to call them together to receive their annuities Yielding to the wishes of the Indians themselves, I concluded it would be better to make the payments early in October, by which time I hope the invalids will be convalescent. The Pottawatomies residing in this sub agency are divided into three bands. The Pottawatomies of Indiana, or, as they are commonly styled, the Saint Joseph band, are located in part on Pottawatomie creek, one of the main tributaries of the upper Osage river. The Pottawatomies of the Wabash reside about 15 miles south of the former, on Sugar creek; likewise a branch of the Osage. The Pottawtoamies of the prairie are dispersed among their brethren at both creeks, although a moiety of them are living with their friends the Kickapoos, of the Fort Leavenworth agency. They come here annually, at payment time, to receive their annuities; but they derive no benefit from other issues, in consequence of their non-residence. Efforts have frequently been made to induce them to abandon their present locations and to remove to their own country, where they would be entitled to participate in the various benefits provided by treaties, viz: salt, tobacco, the corn and cattle issues, blacksmith's work, and the use of the mills. At the coming payment, where they will be in a body, I shall urge on them the necessity of their removal from their present habitations, and shall endeavor to convince them of the benefits they will derive therefrom.

It is gratifying to state that the Pottawatomies, generally speaking, have evinced a very laudable desire to cultivate the soil. Those on Sugar creek have, within the last few years, mostly abandoned the bottom lands, which are subject to the annual periodical inundations in the spring of the year, and are now cultivating the prairie land with much success. This summer (in compliance with your instructions) one hundred and fifty acres of prairie have been broken up, viz: about one hundred acres at Sugar creek, and fifty at Pottawatomie creek; seed wheat has been furnished for sowing, and, from the efforts made by these people this season, I have hopes that next year their industry and perseverance will be amply rewarded. The Pottawatomies living on Sugar creek, viz: the Wabash bands and nearly one-half the Saint Joseph, have been as usual very exemplary. They have raised this season a considerable quantity of small grain—such as wheat, oats, buckwheat, corn, and vegetables;—they have laid in a good quantity of prairie hay, and are well furnished for the winter. It is pleasing to observe the general good conduct of these Indians;—they are industrious and moral; are comfortably fixed in good log houses; and their fields are well fenced, staked, and ridered. They are communicants, to the number of about eleven hundred, of the Roman Catholic church; and too much praise cannot be awarded to the zealous fathers of this persuasion for the good they have wrought among this people. Two schools are in operation. The female one, under the direction of the ladies of the Sacred Heart, deserves particular commendation. That part of the Saint Joseph band residing on Pottawatomie creek have not been as provident as could be wished; they have, it is true, in some individual cases attended to farming, but a majority have not exhibited a desire to cultivate the soil for a maintenance. I am sorry to state that a portion of them are addicted to intemperance. Before I close, I shall comment more fully on this demoralizing habit. The blacksmiths of the Pottawatomies have been profitably employed during the past year in making and repairing agricultural im-

plements for the bands among whom they are located. The mills have been continually grinding, so that upon the whole the Pottawatomies may be considered in a fair way of doing well. You are aware, sir, that they are entitled to considerable advantages arising from treaty stipulations. Hitherto the issues made to them, particularly of cattle and farming tools, have been in such small quantities—that is, proportionate to their number—that the benefits contemplated by the department have not been realized. It is to be wished that in future distributions this may be taken into consideration, and issues made in such a manner that all will be satisfied.

The Ottowas who reside on the Osage have suffered severely by the annual inundations of that river. Owing to their living on the bottom lands, their houses and fields have been destroyed by water. In order to avert such visitations in future, they have determined to leave the low grounds; and are now making for themselves extensive preparations to depend altogether on the prairie land. It affords me much pleasure to state that the two prairie ploughs you instructed me to procure for them have proved very serviceable;—a large quantity of prairie land is now being thrown up, at which each family works alternately. The Ottowas are literally a hard working people, and deserve praise for their efforts. They have a friend in the Rev. Jonathan Meeker, to whose untiring zeal for their welfare the general good disposition of the Ottowas may be attributed.

The Chippewas, not exceeding thirty in number, are generally a moral, sober people. They are very poor. Receiving a very small annuity, and no other aid from government, it would be encouraging, could a little help occasionally be tendered to them.

The same may be said of the Peorias and Kaskaskias, whose annuities expired by limitation a few years ago. They have of course no further claim on government but that arising from charity and benevolence. A little assistance extended to them in their agricultural pursuits, would be appreciated by every feeling mind.

The Weas and Piankeshaws are a quiet, indolent people. They, however, evince a desire to have their children educated. The proximity of these two tribes to the State line of Missouri affords facility to the introduction of ardent spirits among them; to this may be attributed the slow progress of improvement of these people. I am happy to state that the Baptist mission, located on their lands, have carried on their labors with much zeal. It is to be hoped that their efforts for the good of these Indians may be crowned with success.

I beg to refer you to the accompanying reports of the several missionary establishments within this sub agency, and of the schools attached to them.

I likewise append a list of the different employees of government, made out in conformity with the order of the honorable the Commissioner of Indian Affairs under date of May 8, 1845.

Several addresses have been made to me by intelligent and industrious Indians as to the expediency of soliciting government to issue orders for surveying and sectioning the country, and granting patents for the same. Much good would certainly accrue by the adoption of such a course. It would induce the Indians, those who follow agricultural pursuits, to extend their settlements; raise stock; and be of advantage to them in many points of view. In a country like this, where timber is so much an object, their suggestions, it seems to me, are worthy of consideration.

The Indians of this sub agency have repeatedly made complaints against

their neighbors, the Osages, for depredations, and particularly horse-stealing. It seems that previous to their hunting excursions to the prairies for buffalo, the Osages are in the habit of prowling on the outskirts of our settlements to lift horses. In some instances the Pottawatomies and Weas have been to the Osage villages and reclaimed their animals, but still depredations are committed. Our Indians have at length come to the determination not to receive back any of such stolen horses, but to insist on indemnity in cash. This cannot be effected without the interference of the department; but, could some strenuous measure be adopted, I have no doubt it would effectually stop such predatory incursions for the future. If something is not done, I am afraid retaliation will take place after the Indian mode, which all good men must deprecate.

In closing my remarks I would add that, owing to the fostering care of the government, and the inducements offered to the Indians to leave their savage habits and approximate to those of the civilized portion of our own species, much good has, within the last few years, been effected. It is, however, to be deplored that the use of ardent spirits has not been entirely abandoned by these people. Whiskey is at times introduced, notwithstanding the utmost vigilance to suppress it. The whiskey shops on the State line of Missouri offer every facility to its ready procurement by the Indians addicted to this vice. Could a remonstrance on the part of the government to the executive of Missouri to recommend a revision of the intercourse laws of the State, and visit with condign punishment these whiskey traffickers on the line, it would be the means of effecting great good. It is notorious that liquor is sold to Indians by white men near the line with impunity, and the State laws disregarded and laughed at. I will not say that the indulgence in ardent spirits is general among the Indians of this sub-agency; there are honorable exceptions. For instance, the Pottawatomies of Sugar creek have rigid laws against the introduction of whiskey into their settlement; the Ottowas and Chippewas have recently subscribed to a similar code, influenced by the worthy exertions of the Baptist mission located among them. Still the field is open for further exertion, and philanthropy calls upon all good men to aid in such a cause.

In conclusion, I am happy to state that the citizens of the United States permitted, pursuant to the intercourse law, to reside in this sub-agency, following their lawful avocations, are an honorable, kind, and worthy people, and show every disposition to sustain the government and its officers, and to produce that state of morals among the Indians which is so much to be desired.

I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

ALFRED J. VAUGHAN,
Indian Sub-agent.

THOS. H. HARVEY, Esq.,
Superintending Indian Affairs, St. Louis.

No. 27.

GREAT NEHAMA SUB-AGENCY,
September 30, 1845.

SIR: The Sacs and Foxes, and Iowas, have evinced a greater disposition than usual this year to cultivate the soil. Both tribes have an abundance

of corn, beans, pumpkins, squashes, and potatoes to sustain them another year. For a more detailed account of their farming operations, I beg leave to refer to the reports of John W. Forman, Sac and Fox farmer, and Preston Richardson, farmer for the Iowas.

I am pained to say that great insubordination prevails among the Indians, and has ever since they learned that they had a new agent. They commenced by killing the cattle and hogs of the missionaries, and still continue to kill all the stock they can find at large in the prairies. The Sacs have killed some of their own work cattle. Immediately on my arrival from St. Louis, in September, I called both nations together, gave them two large bullocks, and begged of them, if for no other reason for the respect they professed to have for me, to withhold during the few more days that I was allowed to remain with them. They promised me to do better, but they have killed about ten head of cattle since. I fear I shall have but few of the cattle belonging to the Sac and Fox farm to hand over to my successor, when he arrives. I have been waiting patiently for his arrival, but as yet he has not made his appearance on this side of the river. I have heard of his being at St. Joseph once since my arrival at home.

The Indians, as well as whites, within this sub agency, have been very sickly. About forty Iowas have died since my arrival at home, and about twenty Sacs, mostly adults. Thus far, no white person has died, though very few indeed have escaped an attack of fever. Business is and has been entirely suspended—those who are well being required to take care of the sick; and, indeed, for one week, there were not well persons enough to take good care of the sick.

There is one thing I might add in relation to the welfare of the Indians. Neither nation has used half the whiskey this year that they have in former years, and but one Iowa has been murdered by the hand of his brother since my last annual report, which is very remarkable. One Sac was killed by a blow from another Sac, which is the first instance of the kind that has happened in the four years that I have been with them. Whiskey, as a matter of course, was the cause of both murders.

The building intended for the manual labor boarding school is already under cover, and is a large and commodious house, and I think well adapted to the use for which it is designed. It is one hundred and seven feet by thirty-eight, three stories high—the first being of fine dressed stone, and the upper stories of brick. The work of the building is plain, though very substantial. The boards for the flooring, the window sash, blinds, doors, &c., &c., are in a forward state of preparation, which will enable the workmen to complete the building by the first of June next, at farthest.

Allow me to make one more and final suggestion, the adoption of which will, in my opinion, conduce more than almost any thing else could to the general welfare of the Indians. It is utterly futile to expect an agent to correct the evil which has ever existed here by the payment of the annuities to the chiefs and braves. An agent has all the influences to contend against. Let the order go forth that all debts contracted previous to the issuing the order may be paid in the usual way, with a perfect understanding that no new "national debt" shall be paid, but that the money shall be paid to the heads of families, and a benefit will result from it which is incalculable. This matter has been frequently referred to before, but I have felt it my duty once more, and for the last time, to draw the attention of the department to it.

Permit me, sir, to take this last occasion of presenting to you my unfeigned thanks, and through you to the able head of the Indian bureau, for the many kindnesses received at your hands.

I have the honor to be your most obedient servant,

W. P. RICHARDSON,
Indian Sub-agent.

Major T. H. HARVEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Missouri.

No. 27 *a*.

GREAT NEMAHA SUB-AGENCY,
September 30, 1845.

SIR: I have the honor of submitting a brief account of the farming operations of the Iowas for the present year.

I commenced ploughing for them with two horse ploughs early in March, and continued to break up corn ground as long as corn would come to perfection; I think in all there must have been 200 acres, including some 20 acres of new ground ploughed by the two teams. In addition to this amount the Indians themselves broke near 100 acres, making at least 300 acres which they had in cultivation. It may safely be said that the Iowas have a great abundance of corn, beans, pumpkins, squashes, and potatoes, to keep them from suffering until another crop is made. There was much interest manifested by both men and squaws in their farming operations, and, from what I know of them, much more industry than formerly; the principal part of the work, however, was performed by the squaws.

I am, dear sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

PRESTON RICHARDSON,
Iowa Farmer.

Major W. P. RICHARDSON,
Indian Sub-agent, Great Nemaha Sub-agency.

No. 28.

WYANDOT INDIAN SUB AGENCY,
September 18, 1845.

SIR: I arrived at the post assigned to me in the Indian country on the sixth of June last, and found the Wyandots generally in the enjoyment of good health, which has continued with little interruption until the present time. And I found that many of them were not only civilized, but possessed the manners and customs which ornament the higher circles among the white people.

The Wyandots have made good improvement in agriculture since their arrival at this place; for notwithstanding the unfavorable circumstances which I am informed surrounded them at that time, disheartened by sick-

ness and death which visited almost every family, they have cleared a sufficient quantity of heavy timbered land to raise (as they have done the present year) not only an abundant supply of corn, potatoes, and other vegetables required by the nation for their own consumption, but have a surplus of about one third of their crop for market; this, in addition to the pork and beef they will be able to salt this fall, will assist very much in lessening the debts which they have from necessity annually contracted for provisions since their arrival here.

I do not wish to be understood that all are thought industrious and frugal, for *whiskey*, the red man's curse, has so great an influence over a portion of the Wyandot people as to destroy their usefulness to a great extent; and I see but little ground to hope for a better state of things in this important particular, under the present inefficient laws made to protect the Indians from obtaining it. It is true, that those persons who trangress the law are liable to a fine; but when you take into consideration the debased character as well as the pecuniary irresponsibility of those persons who engage in the sale of ardent spirits to and its introduction among the Indians, we are convinced that they would not care how often a fine was inflicted, or to what amount; consequently, there is no terror in the existing laws sufficient to restrain them from this hellish traffic. Permit me to suggest that the laws under consideration be so altered as, upon conviction, to add to fine imprisonment, or imprisonment at the discretion of the court having jurisdiction, &c.

The Rev. James Wheeler, the missionary who resides among the Wyandots, is active and zealous in the cause of temperance, and renders important service in ameliorating the condition and correcting the morals of the Indians. He informs me that out of 555 souls (being the whole number of Wyandots residing here) there are about 200 adult members of the Methodist church.

We have also a temperance society, which holds its meetings with much regularity, (semi-monthly) and is productive of much good.

There are in this agency two schools in operation, kept by Wyandots and profitably conducted, especially the one under the charge of my interpreter, J. M. Armstrong, who was a member of the Ohio bar; he is an accomplished scholar; his services to this nation as a teacher are almost indispensable. These schools (as I am informed) commenced some twenty months ago, and were established by the chiefs, with the expectation that the $500 secured by treaty stipulation would be appropriated as soon as due, but which has not as yet been made available. It is hoped that this matter will receive that attention which its importance demands.

The blacksmith shop is well managed by Charles Graham, who has for many years been employed in that service, to the general satisfaction of all concerned.

The Wyandots, as you are aware, have made their improvements on lands purchased of the Delaware Indians under the contract, or treaty, which, I am informed, is now before the proper department for confirmation. They are very anxious for its approval, which would allay all apprehension that now exists among them (the fear of loss of labor, &c.,) and at the same time create a healthy emulation among those disposed to labor. The Wyandot people cannot leave these lands without suffering irreparable loss.

I paid to the chiefs on the 15th inst. their annual annuity of $17,500,

which was by them distributed among the people to their apparent satisfaction.

I shall on the 22d inst. open the pay roll for their improvements in Ohio, as transmitted to me; with what success I cannot now say.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

RICHARD HEWITT,
Indian Sub-agent.

T. H. CRAWFORD,
Commissioner Indian Affairs.

No. 29.

OFFICE OF MIAMI AND EEL RIVER SUB-AGENCY,
Fort Wayne, October 1, 1845.

SIR: I have had the honor to receive your letter of September 17, and, as you direct, I proceed to give you a statement of the condition of the tribe of Indians under my charge. As my appointment is a recent one, and there having been no council held since it was made, I am unable to give you a statement such as I could wish to make.

The whole number of Indians in the tribe will not vary much from six hundred and fifty; a very small portion (not exceeding fifty) are engaged moderately in agriculture. The residue of the active men occasionally employ themselves in hunting.

As the time for their removal approaches, the Indians are generally busy in their preparations for departure; otherwise their general condition is about the same as last year.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH SINCLEAR,
Sub-agent.

T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD, Esq.
Commissioner Indian Affairs.

No. 30.

OFFICE OF THE NEW YORK SUB-AGENCY,
September 30, 1845.

SIR: The period having arrived when it becomes my duty, under the regulations of the department, to report the condition of the Indians within this sub agency—

The Seneca nation, who, for several years past, have had a great deal of difficulty, growing out of the sale of their lands, are becoming more reconciled. That portion of them residing on the Buffalo creek reservation have most of them complied with the terms of the treaty of May, 1842, by surrendering their improvements to the Ogden company, and receiving the amount of money awarded to them individually under said treaty, and removing to Cattaraugus and Allegany. The sum paid to individual Indians for these improvements, under said treaty, amounts at this date to thir-

ty-four thousand eight hundred and eighty-six dollars, ($34,886.) Those who removed early in the season have made great improvements in buildings and improving their lands. They are all very much pleased with their new homes. There are a few families among those, who yet remain that are opposed to surrendering their lands, according to the terms of said treaty: however, I think there will be no further difficulty, and that when the time arrives they will surrender.

The Tonawandas all remain in possession of their lands, and I am not aware that there is any disposition on the part of any portion of them to surrender at present; notwithstanding, as the time draws nigh, I cannot but think that they will see the benefits that must result to them from a quiet and peaceable surrender of their lands.

When this treaty shall have been fully carried out, and the Senecas become settled on their lands at Cattaraugus and Allegany, where they can be much better protected than where they now are, I have no doubt, from the evidence already exhibited by those who have gone there, that their condition, collectively and individually, will undergo a rapid and permanent change for the better.

There has been no particular change with regard to the other tribes within the last year.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. OSBORN,
Sub-agent.

Hon. T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD,
Commissioner Indian Affairs.

No. 31.

WINNEBAGO SCHOOL, TURKEY RIVER, IOWA TERRITORY,
September 19, 1845.

SIR: In compliance with your request, the following report of this school is respectfully submitted.

There have been two vacations during the year: the first from the 3d to the 25th of September, 1844: the second from the 27th of June to the 13th of July. The whole number of pupils is 106—83 boys, 83 girls; daily average, 60.

Early last spring several families who had largely patronized the school were induced, by no good motives on the part of those who influenced them, to remove to such a distance from the school that their children could not attend: had these families remained, the school would have been considerably larger than it has been during any previous year.

Four persons have been employed in teaching, and one in the clothing department. The irregularity of many of the pupils is still a serious obstacle to their rapid improvement. The scholars may be classed as follows: 53 read in the Eclectic First Reader, and books of a higher order; 75 in the Primer, beyond the alphabet; 38 in the alphabet; 30 study arithmetic, and 36 geography. It is impossible, owing to the irregularity of the pupils, to keep those of the same class in the same degree of advancement. A greater amount of oral instruction has been given this year than during any year previous.

The clothing department has furnished 438 garments; 142 of these have have been made by the parents of half-breed children. 8 girls have learned to knit. Many of the Indian girls can now sew well. The washing for the scholars, during six months, was done by the directress of the clothing department.

Respectfully, &c.,

H. N. THISSELL,
Acting Principal of the Winnebago School.

GEN. J. E. FLETCHER,
U. S. Indian Sub-agent, Turkey river sub-agency.

No. 32.

TRAVERSE DES SIOUX, *July* 15, 1845.

Annual report of the Dakota school at Traverse Des Sioux, under the care of the A. B. C. F. M., for the year ending July, 1845.

Laborers at the station, Stephen R. Riggs, A. M., missionary; Robert Hopkins, teacher and farmer; Mrs. Riggs, Mrs. Hopkins, Miss J. A. Kephart, female teachers.

Station commenced in the summer of 1843. Buildings, one log cabin for two small families; one frame school and meeting-house, thirty feet by eighteen, as yet only partly finished. Stock during the year, two horses.

In the summer and autumn of 1844, our school was quite irregular. Sometimes we had eight or ten scholars, and then, again, obeying impulses of their being, they were away on the prairie, or in the woods seeking roots or game for a subsistence. While they were engaged in gathering their corn, we employed Henok Marpiyahaenope, a young man from Lac-qui-parle, to teach at one of the villages. He continued three weeks, and had upwards of thirty scholars, with an average attendance of twelve. Immediately after this, they went off to the Rice lakes, on their fall hunts, and did not return until the latter part of December; during this time we had but little school. From their return in the winter until sugar making, notwithstanding considerable opposition to the school, at one time we had in all forty-five scholars, with an average attendance of twelve or thirteen. Owing to their irregular attendance, they did not progress as we hoped they would have done. One young man learned to read intelligibly the parts of the Bible printed in the Dakota language. Several boys also read some easy lessons. Besides reading, the girls attended some to sewing and knitting, under the instruction of Mrs. Hopkins and Miss Kephart. Since the return of spring we have generally had a few scholars; in all about thirty names have been entered on the school bills, but they have given a very irregular attendance, partly owing to the necessity of the case, and partly because they are not sufficiently interested in learning the book. For two weeks in June we gave a pint of corn daily to the scholars, as they had nothing to depend upon but what they gathered—roots and berries, with a few fish and some ducks.

Captain Sumner, of the United States dragoons, as he passed up north, told the Indians at this place that their great father, the President, very much desired them to attend to the instructions of the missionaries. I hope

this advice, with that which you are accustomed to give them, will not be altogether without effect.

We have been exceedingly anxious to induce the Indians at this place to attend more to the cultivation of the soil; but since our commencing operations here the nearness of the buffalo has been unfavorable to the enlargement of cornfields. A year ago last spring we ploughed all their old ground for them; but a part of it was not planted, as the owners did not return from the buffalo region until it was too late. This last spring we tried to induce them to plough their own fields with their own horses, offering them the use of the mission ploughs. Various reasons operated to prevent them from adopting this plan. One new field was ploughed. A plough, two sets of harness, and one dozen of hoes, which they have received since planting, through the agency of Colonel Bruce, will, next year, I hope, be a valuable assistance to them. Their corn is growing well this season.

The Indians in this part of the country have some horses which are almost continually changing owners. This is the great object of the whiskey trade, which has been carried on so briskly during almost the whole year. Among the Ihanktonwans, on the prairies, horses and tents can be obtained for a little fire-water; when it would require a considerable number of blankets, kettles, &c. to procure the same. This is the temptation. The Dakotas must be men of more principle than many of their white brothers if they can withstand it.

Within three months past two or three hundred kegs have passed this point up. It has gone to do its work of destruction and death; to break up kettles and guns, cut up tents, stab horses, and shoot soldiers and chieftains.

Since January, eight persons have signed the temperance pledge here; only two of whom, to our knowledge, have broken it. I am persuaded that the voluntary principle is the only basis on which a reformation of this kind can rest in the commencement; but it may be long before these Indians, as a people, will be wise for themselves. May the Great Spirit hasten the time.

I am, &c.,

STEPHEN R. RIGGS.

Col. A. J. Bruce,
Indian Agent, Fort Snelling.

No. 33.

Extract from the report of Thomas Williamson, superintendent of the Lac-qui-parle mission school.

Considerable time has been spent in teaching the native females to spin, knit, weave, sew, &c.; but Miss Huggins, who has charge of the department, has been absent for more than two months, and I am unable to report what has been accomplished. When here, and able to labor, her whole time and strength are given to teaching and aiding the Indians.

More progress has been made in teaching English than in any previous year.

The measles and dysentery caused a great mortality among the Dakotas

last fall and winter. Out of a population of about 400 souls who reside here some part of the year, more than 30 have died within a year. This, with the scarcity of corn, and vicinity of buffalo, has greatly hindered our school; making the Indians reckless about learning, and exceedingly irregular of attendance at school. Many have good prospects of corn this year.

THOS. WILLIAMSON,
Missionary of A. B. C. F. M. Superintendency.

No. 34.

LAC QUI-PARLE, *July* 10, 1845.

DEAR SIR: I have the honor to enclose you herewith the 10th annual report of the school under my care. I have made it out as nearly as practicable in accordance with the form which you furnished me four years ago, only omitting an account of our buildings, the society which sustains us, &c., which having been mentioned repeatedly in previous reports, it seemed unnecessary to mention in this. The only alteration in our buildings worthy of mention, since our last report, was the rebuilding of a part of the wall of our meeting and school-house, which had fallen down in consequence of severe beating rains, and weather-boarding the house to prevent the occurrence of a similar accident in time to come.

The repairs cost us	$40 00
We have in the same time paid to native teachers	41 50
And given to further the school books and stationery	32 50
Clothing	44 51
Medicines and sundries	42 75
Total	201 26

Besides boarding 3 Indian children 81 weeks, for the purpose of teaching them English. Our receipts within the year, including donations of clothing and provisions, and exclusive of books in the Dakota language, amount to about 850 dollars. I am unable to state the precise amount, as part of the donations was not accompanied with an invoice. In addition to the above we gave upwards of sixty bushels of potatoes, last spring, to the Indians here, to plant, besides a much greater quantity given them for food. Probably the greater part of those given for seed were eaten; but they have far more potatoes growing here now than ever before. They have also planted more squashes, melons, &c., than in any previous years. They also manifest more disposition to wash their clothes, and keep themselves clean, than heretofore, and they weary us with applications for soap. Their poverty is such that many of them are unable to dress themselves decently; but many of the women and some of the men are willing to labor to obtain such things as they need, with a cheerfulness which we did not see in former years; and if they could have the same assurance of eating the fruits of their labors which the white men have, I am persuaded we should soon see a manifest improvement.

Will you be so kind as to request of the authorities at Washington to forward me a copy of the documents respecting the Indians, which are pub-

lished annually by authority of Congress? Besides that, we feel a deep interest in knowing what is doing for the civilization of other tribes; the regulations respecting school reports, &c., are frequently altered, and it is hard for us to comply with them when we have no means of ascertaining what they are. I would also esteem it a particular favor if you could procure for me a copy of Mr. Nicollet's map, which I understand was published last winter.

I was sorry to see the chiefs, who took down the men who committed the depredations last summer, return in an ill humor. They complained that they had worn out their moccasins, starved almost to death, and got nothing for their trouble. This was probably in part false, and I suppose you gave them what you had to give; but it is a long, wearisome journey for these men to go from their country to Fort Snelling. They cannot make it without suffering, and it seems to be a pity that government should not make provision so that when the chiefs visit you on public business you might give them at least enough to compensate them for their time and pains. The last time before, that some of them went down, you were absent; they got nothing, and came back much dissatisfied. They have much intercourse with the *Ohantonwanna* of the plains; have always been partial to the British, on which account it is important to conciliate them; and I should think a few hundred dollars worth of goods given them, when they visit you, would do more to conciliate them than many times the amount spent in sending troops to drive the half-breeds out of their country. Please excuse me if I have gone beyond my province in giving my opinion; it is the facts to which I wish to call your attention.

I am, &c.,

THOMAS S. WILLIAMSON.
Missionary of A. B. C. F. M.

Col. A. J. Bruce.

No. 35.

Annual report of the Catholic Mission schools of the Little Chute, Fox river, and Pawagan, at the Wolf river, Wisconsin Territory, Theodore T. Vanden Broek, principal—established for the benefit of the Menomonie Indians—from 30*th September*, 1844, *till* 30*th September*, 1845.

The Roman Catholic sect of Menomonies may fairly be considered an agricultural people. They depend almost entirely on their labor for a support. They have raised a bountiful crop of corn, buckwheat, oats—largely over what they need for home consumption; also, an abundance of cabbages, potatoes, pumpkins, beans, and many other vegetables. They also raise horses, cattle, hogs, chickens. They settle in neighborhoods similar to the whites, and cleared this year from 5 to 10 acres each. This Christian party amounts, at present, to 120 families, but augments every month; also, this year, I baptized 90 natives, among whom were two chiefs. All this people live separate from that sect of Menomonies which retain their wandering habits. And the experiment made under the treaty of 1831, to establish farms, &c., with many expenses, proved a failure; but this branch, with six chiefs, gives a full satisfaction to the good intentions of

the United States government. They manifested to me likewise their desire to be naturalized.

The house in which the school is taught, and serves at the same time for religious instruction and church, is not of sufficient size; but, as the late sub-agents did not pay the money they received for education and instruction of Menomonie youths since the year 1841 till 1842, nevertheless I was obliged to pay every year for teachers, interpreters, books, stationery, &c. I was not able to assist them with a better school house and church. And this sect of Menomonies had ten years with me at their homes at the Little chute, Fox river; but as they must, a year hence, emigrate to their new homes at Lake Pawagan, to obey the treaty of the Cider rapids in 1836, they desire that I should stay likewise among them. I wish to satisfy their desire; but it is impossible for me to stay there permanently without a dwelling, or unless I know my expenses for a comfortable building or mission-house are to be paid. Now, I have much trouble and expenses, as I come every three or four weeks from Little chute, (about 33 miles;) and then I am to reside in one of the Indian houses, sometimes two or three miles from the school-house. All this would have been better regulated if I were to be satisfied for education and instructions. I hope the department will render me justice. I send now my tenth annual report. One school is not sufficient. I am obliged to build two schools, for some of the children must come three miles distant.

At present, the teachers are Mr. Peter Webster, Mrs. Agatha Porlier, and myself.

THEODORE T. VANDEN BROEK,
Missionary Superintendent.

No. 36.

STOCKBRIDGE, CALUMET COUNTY, W. T.,
September 26, 1845.

SIR: The commissioners of common schools amongst the Stockbridge Indians would respectfully report to you, and through you to the War Department, respecting the state of the school taught the past summer in this town. We would, in the first place, remark that, for the want of funds, no school has been taught here which amounted to anything for four or five years past; and that, during the past summer, only one has been taught in the town, owing to want of funds, and inability to secure the services of a suitable teacher. The teacher, Miss Harriet Y. Dickenson, was examined by the commissioners as to her qualifications for instructing, and recommended to Colonel Jones, late Indian agent. She entered upon her duties June 26th, and this day completes one quarter. Her school has been visited by us from time to time, and we feel confident that she has discharged her arduous duties with fidelity. During the summer the children who attend are, for the most part, small; and inasmuch as they have not attended school for so long a time previously, the progress made in learning to read, &c., has not been so manifest as it otherwise would have been; still it has been as much as could reasonably be expected.

The whole number who have attended is fifty-five; the average number

from thirty-five to forty. These are divided into six classes, according to the progress made in learning.

The first class contains eight scholars—three males, and five females; their ages from thirteen to eighteen years of age. Studies to which they have attended, are reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic, and geography. With one exception, the capacities of this class are good for acquiring knowledge, as much so as children of their age in schools amongst white people.

The second class contains fourteen—five males and nine females; ages from nine to thirteen years; capacities for learning, good generally. Some of this class have attended to writing. Studies principally reading and spelling. Progress made in these studies pretty good.

Third class contains three scholars; capacity for learning about the same as the second; ages eight years; studies reading and spelling; one male and two females.

Fourth class contains twelve scholars—four males and eight females; ages from four to ten years. At the commencement of the school, only two or three knew their letters; now they have gone through the Pictorial Primer, a book containing 46 pages, three times. This primer contains the abs, words of one and two syllables, and easy reading lessons.

Fifth class contains four males; have been irregular in attendance; ages from four to ten years; now read in words of one syllable, and spell the same. One in this class is a promising boy.

Sixth class contains ten scholars—seven males, and three females; ages from three to four years; generally bright, and all in their A, B, C's. Besides the studies above mentioned, they are learning the multiplication table together; and those who are able to read in reading, recite a verse of Scripture at the close of school on each day.

The parents have been very much gratified with having a school opened again for the instruction of their children, and are glad to know that the government is willing to assist them in educating their children.

As to natural advantages, the reservation upon which these Indians reside is very good for agricultural purposes; contains an abundance of the best limestone in its ledges and bluffs for making lime, building purposes, &c. Soil is excellent, well watered with springs issuing from the ledges and bluffs. No minerals, as yet, have been discovered. The timber is maple, bass wood, butternut, ash, beach, oak of different kinds, hickory, iron-wood, &c. For expenses, see the enclosed bill.

CUTTING MARSH,
DAVID WIGGINS,
ZEBA T. POTTER,
} *Commissioners.*

Mr. A. G. ELLIS,
United States Indian Agent, Green Bay.

No. 37.

DUCK CREEK, W. T., *September* 2, 1845.

SIR: The school connected with this mission, and located among the first Christian party of Oneida Indians under my charge, and sustained by the patronage of the board of missions of the Protestant Episcopal church

in the United States, has been continued without intermission during the past year. Our average number of scholars is thirty-five, who are instructed in reading, writing, &c., by a native teacher. One day in each week is devoted to catechetical instruction in their own language, by which means most of the scholars have become quite familiar with the church catechism. Having a translation of the New Testament, it is used in the school; some of the children are able to read it in both their own and the English language. Twenty of the children are girls; boys fifteen. About half of this number are over 12 years of age.

The Oneidas are gradually improving their condition; many of them being good farmers, in the enjoyment of the comforts of civilized life. They are regular in attendance at church, unite with devotion in the celebration of Divine service, and (to the number of 130) constant in holy communion at the altar.

You will excuse me for not entering more into particulars, as in my last year's report; I have not found time to devote to it. Allow me, at the same time, to express my thanks for the interest uniformly manifested by you in our behalf.

I remain, &c.

SOLOMON DAVIS,
Missionary, Superintendent, &c.

Col. DAVID JONES,
U. S. Sub-agency, Green Bay.

No. 38.

GREEN BAY, W. T., *August* 30, 1845.

DEAR SIR: As you invited us to accompany you on a visit to the Indian schools at Duck creek, you will no doubt allow us to express our gratification with what we there witnessed.

In our examination of Rev. Mr. Davis's school, we were much pleased with the specimens of penmanship exhibited to us. From the ready answers they gave to all questions put to them, we should say that the pupils understand well their own Indian books. The solemn manner in which they went through with the morning service of the liturgy, together with the pleasing decorum of their conduct, would do credit to many of our higher schools. Their singing we thought peculiarly sweet.

It would be useless for us to particularize every portion of our examination. You will please express to the Rev. Mr. Davis our congratulations at the very successful issue of his useful labors. Much may be expected from these young pupils. The intellectual and moral culture they are now receiving will raise them far beyond their anticipations in the scale of human happiness, as well as usefulness. We found much to be satisfied with during our visit. The romantic site of their church, and its neat architecture, the productive appearance of their farms, and the comfortable houses upon them, all gave the appearance of happiness, plenty, and comfort.

We are, &c.

EDWARD OATHWAITE,
MELANCTHON HOYT.

DAVID JONES, Esq.,
Indian Sub-agent.

No. 39.

ONEIDA NATION, NEAR GREEN BAY,
September 13, 1845.

DEAR SIR: I here present you with a report of the school taught among the Oneida Indians, under the patronage of the Methodist Episcopal church, in the year ending September 1, 1845.

* * * * * * * * * * *

Whole number of scholars taught is: males, 18; females, 13; total, 31. Ages: under five, 4; between five and ten, 18; between ten and fifteen, 9. Studies: reading, writing, and arithmetic.

The English language only has been taught. 7 are in letters; 18 read in spelling, and 6 in reading; 2 study arithmetic, and 9 write.

They board with their parents; and, considering the difficulty of learning a foreign language, their improvement is respectable, with some exceptions, as is always the case in every school.

H. R. COLEMAN, *Teacher.*

Hon. A. G. ELLIS,
Indian Agent, Green Bay, W. T.

No. 40.

DETROIT, *September* 29, 1845.

SIR: I have the honor herewith to submit to you the report of the Indian schools in the missions under my superintendency.

I am happy to state that this year our schools have been as interesting as at any former period, and that the improvement of the scholars is, in general, more satisfactory than last year. Many of the children who used to absent themselves for whole weeks and months from school, have this year been punctual in attending almost every day, and shown greater zeal and interest in their studies. The cause of education seems to have received a new impulse in our missions of late. For as this year a great number of these benighted Indians have embraced the Catholic religion, and others, already converted, become more punctual in the observance of their Christian duties, so their apathy for education has been changed into an anxious desire to see their children educated; and for this purpose, they have oftentimes rather endured privations than keep them from school. The attendance, however, of the larger scholars, has not always been so punctual, as many of them had indispensable duties to perform at home. I had the pleasure of being present last summer at an examination of the schools at Arbre Croche, Middletown, La Croix, Pointe St. Ignace, and Mackinac, and I can say in truth that very few white children could have improved more than these Indian scholars have done in the course of this year. The improvement also of the girls in plain sewing, knitting, and trimming with porcupine, has been, according to the report of their teachers, far beyond expectation.

The progress of the Indians this year, in respect to civilization, has been very flattering; and in their general manners and moral conduct they have made great advances. Also, the cause of temperance has had wonderful

effect amongst them, especially those of the stations of Little Traverse bay, Cheboygan, and Manistie, where they number about fifteen hundred, all zealously devoted to the Catholic religion; and not one of them, to the knowledge of their missionary and chiefs, has violated the temperance pledge, which they all have taken.

In these stations, together with that of Castor island, the number of infant baptisms this year amounts to 45—of adults 183; marriages 32, and burials 16.

Before I close this report, I must needs mention that the improvement of these Indians has this year been most remarkable, and that they are visibly become more industrious, not only because intemperance is now entirely banished from their midst, but also, as they have now purchased their land, they have a well founded hope the government will never remove them from it.

In conclusion, allow me to say, that your fatherly address to those good Indians whilst at Mackinac has inspired them with new courage. They were highly pleased; they seem to place full confidence in you, and rely much on your fatherly protection, which I trust you will never have reason to refuse them; but, on the contrary, I flatter myself with a confident assurance that their continual progress in civilization will always deserve and claim your special attention and favor.

I have the honor to be, with high regard and esteem, your obedient servant,

PETER P. LEFEVRE, *B'p Z. C. A. D.*

WILLIAM A. RICHMOND, Esq.,
Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs.

No. 41.

OTTOWA COLONY, *September* 10, 1845.

SIR: I hasten to furnish you some particulars relating to our labors the past year.

It affords me gratification to be able to say, that there has been a change for the better in regard to the school since my last report. The subject of education is more deeply impressed on the mind of the natives. A greater concern to have their offspring educated is apparent, from the fact that the school has increased in number, attendance more regular, cleanliness of their persons more regarded; and their costumes more in conformity to the children of white people is observed. At the sound of the bell may be seen the youth of both sexes speeding their way towards the chapel, attired with clean dresses and faces, with a cheerful countenance enter the school room, and after suspending their loose dress, take their seats with all the decorum of well disciplined scholars. To contrast their present situation with their habits of indolence, uncleanness, and irregularity, encourages us to renew our efforts in their behalf.

The school is composed of entire native children, with the exception of my own. We have rising 30 on our catalogue, viz: 17 girls and 13 boys. All write their lessons on slates. The studies pursued are reading, writing, and geography. Their progress has been encouraging. We are sensible that without a due regard to education, all our fair prospects will be

blasted—our bright star and hope will set in thick darkness. We have immortal minds to educate. We are happy in the reflection that the United States government have so benignly turned their attention to this subject, and exercise rigid scrutiny over the schools that share in their liberality and fostering care.

Agricultural interest.—Since the appointment of the present farmer, selected by the united bands of the Griswold and this colony, and recommended by the teachers, it has excited new life and energy among the natives. They have been more industrious in their fields, improving all their cultivated land, and are now anxious to enlarge their fields. They have already cleared many acres, preparing the ground for breaking. At a council this day they voted to purchase two more yoke of oxen, and have the amount deducted out of their annuities from government. Their crops look encouraging. We encourage the natives in mechanical operations; it is hoped that government will furnish them with tools. They need a set of bench planes, a breast-bit, and set of augers and chisels. They need, immediately, scythes and snaths. The natives have a peculiar genius for mechanical pursuits. We often recommend to them the manufacture of articles; and they would answer, they could make the like had they tools.

The moral character of the natives.—It would afford me pleasure could I state that there had been no instances of intoxication. Some have united with us from a distance, and resumed here their old habits of intemperance, which induced others to unite with them. A timely resort to the wholesome provision enacted by our State government, enforcing a penalty for vending liquor to Indians, checked this infraction of the law. There have been but two or three instances the past season that liquor has been brought into the colony, and then the majority withstood the temptation.

The attendance of the natives to religious instruction has been encouraging. The apparent attention and interest manifested in the house of God, gives satisfaction and joy to impart to them the precious truths of the gospel. As an instance of their regard and attachment to the gospel, it was proposed last Lord's day that they unite with thousands who contribute their mites for the spread of the gospel in distant lands. At the close of the discourse on the subject of liberality, the chief requested that all who were favorable to sending the gospel to heathen lands, should bring their offering to his house on the morrow. At the close of their interview I was requested to visit them and take an inventory of their gifts, and found, to my astonishment, that they had contributed to the amount of $17 94 in money and goods.

The church has sustained the loss of two prominent members the past year, by the ravages of death. There has been a time of general health, however, the past year.

Our disbursements the past year amount to $588 78. Received from the United States government, through the Baptist board of the general convention, $350.

Respectfully yours,

L. SLATER,
Superintendent Ottowa Colony.

Hon. WILLIAM A. RICHMOND,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Detroit.

No. 42.

OLD WING, *June* 30, 1845.

DEAR SIR: Agreeably to your directions of the 2d inst., I have the honor of forwarding to you my annual report.

The first of the year I received an appointment from government, as missionary and teacher at this station. For this I was exceedingly thankful, having labored here for five years and suffered great privations and afflictions, and had my work limited and impeded by very precarious and incompetent means of support. During the year these evils have been relieved by the receipt of government aid.

The Indians were very much afflicted with sickness the latter part of summer and fall. The sickness was very general—not a family was exempt;—several deaths occurred, both of adults and children. These facts, with the fact that they had camped for the hot season on the lake shore four miles from the school-house, prevented my opening school till late in the fall; they also very much impeded the farming operations.

In November I commenced school, and continued it till sugaring time this spring. The school was well attended.

Number of males	30
Number of females	12
Whole number	42
White scholars (2 males and 3 females)	5

These are my own children and two sent from the farmers, and I think them a decided advantage to native scholars in regulating their manners, &c., &c. Since sugaring I have not been able to get the children to school. Sickness and other evils have combined to prevent their attendance; though I have recently obtained a pledge in council, which I think may be relied on, that after a short time I shall have scholars the year through. The books used the past year are, the Elementary Spelling Book, and the Union reading books Nos. 1, 2, and 3. I taught writing, and a part of the scholars write a very fair hand. I also exercise the school in intellectual arithmetic and vocal music every day. The advancement of the scholars in all these branches of learning is decidedly good, as also in orderly behavior in school. I also taught singing-school a part of the winter with good effect. Our meetings on the Sabbath have been steadily though not very largely attended, and the truths of the gospel are listened to with the deepest interest. The cause of temperance has done much the past year, and in fact such a thing as drinking in the colony is not known. Last December we formed a new temperance society of about fifty members, which we have reason to believe will produce very favorable results;—still some of the Indians drink occasionally, when absent from home. The women have made considerable advances in their domestic operations; most of them can make a good quality of raised bread—some of them a superior article; some of the girls have learned to knit so as to make their own stockings, socks, &c.

Now, in review of the whole year, it is but justice to state that their progress towards a happier condition has been considerable, and the prospect of future progress is better than the past, because prejudices are yielding and difficulties have been overcome, so that, with respect to civil-

ization, intelligence, morality, religion, and the securing of comfortable means of support from their agricultural efforts, their condition is flattering. Still there are difficulties in the way, as there must always be in attempting to raise the condition of a savage people to the enjoyment of the blessings of civilization and christianity; but we are encouraged to hope that, with patient perseverance, the time is not far distant when this band will bless the government for its means of improvement, and for its fostering care.

I am, dear sir, respectfully, your humble and obedient servant,

GEORGE N. SMITH.

WILLIAM A. RICHMOND,
Acting Superintendent Indian affairs.

No. 43.

MISSION HOUSE,
Sault Ste. Marie, June 17, 1845.

SIR: Being called upon to forward the annual report of our mission earlier than usual, and before making out my report to the Board of Missions, it may fail of being as full as it otherwise might have been.

Through the paternal care of that glorious Being from whom we derive all our mercies, the lives of all who have been engaged in the labors of this mission have been preserved, and we have enjoyed about our usual measure of health, so that we have been enabled steadily to prosecute our labors.

The missionaries connected with this mission are, myself and wife, the Rev. James D. Cameron, itinerant preacher, and Miss Maria Bingham, assistant school teacher, and Shegud, a native assistant.

A well conducted school has been taught through the year, with our usual vacation of one week at the close of each quarter. The number of pupils enrolled on our catalogue for the several quarters is from 44 to 52, and are as follows: 1st quarter, 48; males 22, females 26. 2d quarter, 44; males 20, females 24. 3d quarter, 52; males 26, females 26. 4th quarter, 52; males 25, females 27.

Of this number 2 have studied English grammar; 6 have studied geography; 7 have studied Adams's Arithmetic, and 7 others Colburn's Intellectual Arithmetic; and 5 have practised writing compositions. The others are at various stages, down to the alphabet.

We have 11 boarding scholars, 5 males and 6 females; all of whom are instructed in business, according to their several capacities to perform, as well as in letters. The pupils in school have made decent, but not rapid progress in their studies, considering their attendance. Some have been quite punctual in attending, when at the place; and others have been (as is too common) sadly remiss.

A Sabbath school has been steadily kept up through the year, in which general religious and scriptural instruction has been given to those who have attended.

Christian worship has been regularly maintained with the Indians during the year at the station, and at their several locations, and, we trust, has not been destitute of its beneficial effects. One couple, of pure Indian blood,

have been married according to the laws of our State and the usages of Christian nations.

Our Indians in general maintain their temperance principles as faithfully as could reasonably have been expected, considering the numerous temptations to which they are exposed. There have been some violations of their pledge among them, but in most cases the delinquent has confessed his fault and renewed his pledge; and by a steady and constant perseverance we hope to see them eventually come off conquerors, and even triumph over that besetting sin.

A respectable portion of the Indians who fall under my labors are now engaged in the fishing business, putting up fish for market; and others of them would have been engaged in the same employment, did not other important business claim their attention. At present they are engaged in building houses, and transporting lumber and materials for the work to the place of their location. They are steadily inclining to habits of civilization and industry; and, with skilful guidance and proper encouragement, we trust they may eventually become a respectable, virtuous, and happy people.

The following is the public property in my hands for the benefit of the Indians:

One pair of oxen, three-fourths of which belong to the department, and one-fourth to the mission; one ox cart; one log chain, and one set of harrow teeth.

With sentiments of respect, I am, sir, your obedient servant,

A. BINGHAM,
Superintendent Baptist Missions.

JAMES ORD, Esq.
Sub-agent Indian Affairs, Sault Ste. Marie.

No. 44.

Sault Ste. Marie.—The general condition of this mission is much the same as when I last reported. Our boarding house having been originally built of logs and without a cellar, and having never been suited to our wants and already much decayed in its bottom logs, we found it necessary to build a new one. The frame is now up and the enclosing in progress. The cellar is 24 by 30 feet, well stoned, and the whole building well underpinned. The building, as it now stands, when completed will make a house 60 feet in length, 24 in breadth, and 1½ story in height, and will be every way suited to our wants as soon as we can get it finished, which we hope to have done by fall, if we can possibly realize the necessary funds. The school, we think, is in a fair state of improvement; all the branches of a common English education are taught as the advancement of the pupils requires. There are nine head of cattle belonging to the mission, and nine more to individual Indians.

Kewawenon, Fond du-Lac, and Sandy Lake.—As these places are from 250 to 600 miles from my residence, I am unable, at this early period of the year, to make as definite a report as I should be glad to. I expect to start tomorrow on a visit to these stations, when I hope to be able with more certainty to report their real condition. In the mean time, may the

Lord bless both them and us, and make our annual visit to them a season of good.

With much respect, I am yours, &c.,

W. H. BROCKWAY.

JAMES ORD, Esq.,
Indian Sub-agent, Sault Ste. Marie.

No. 45.

DETROIT, *October* 29, 1845.

SIR: I beg leave to present to you my annual report of the state of the mission under my care at "Griswold," in the State of Michigan. The number of Indians present, counting all the families, is about one hundred and twenty. Many of these are absent at certain seasons of the year, but the larger proportion are either at the mission station or in the neighborhood, so that they and their children can receive instruction from the teacher and missionary. I have directed him to give daily instruction to all who will attend, and the efforts made have been in some degree crowned with success.

Their habits have been greatly changed, and several have become intelligent and exemplary Christians. We have succeeded, in a great degree, in breaking them of their fondness for liquor, and, with very few exceptions, I may say they are sober and industrious. The land which I purchased, and hold in trust for them, I have divided among the different families. They have cultivated it well, and on most of the divisions neat and comfortable log dwellings have been erected. My visits are made with increasing pleasure, as I find from year to year they are making rapid progress in securing for themselves those temporal comforts which distinguish the civilized from the savage, and above all, that knowledge which alone maketh wise unto salvation. I hope, by the blessing of God on our efforts, many of these poor children of the forest will be saved from the contaminating influence of the world, and made the humble and consistent followers of our common Lord and Savior.

SAMUEL A. McCOSKRY,
Bishop of Michigan.

WILLIAM A. RICHMOND, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

No. 46.

DEAR SIR: It will be perceived by the accompanying report that the number of children reported in attendance on the school, is less than last year. This is owing to the fact, that the school has been almost broken up by the introduction of the measles in the place. A family that wintered up the lake returned here this spring, bringing this disease with them. It has spread, and is spreading throughout the village. There is nothing very special to report. Things in all respects have assumed a more favorable aspect, with regard to the improvement of the people, during the year.

Subsequently to my last report, on the return of the Indians from their payment, there appeared to have been an effort made to oppose the cause of temperance, by the introduction of liquor. Several persons were found to have brought some. But few, however, were found disposed to join in drinking. As soon as I got word of it I went, with others, to endeavor to put a stop to it. We succeeded in discovering all that remained, and by paying the man who had it what it cost him, we got his consent to have it thrown away. Since then there has been none in the place. The contrast, in the appearance of some families who have not drank this spring, is truly pleasing. Last spring they sold everything and were very destitute. This spring they are well clothed. They know, they feel, they are better without it. But when temptation comes, they often want firmness to resist. The encouragement they have received, in the cause of temperance, from the superintendent and agent, has greatly helped them and encouraged us. We hope the time is not far distant when this people, if permitted, will be prepared to be incorporated into the civilized family. We are led to prize more and more the gospel of the Son of God, as we see its effects through the Divine agency, in transforming these people from their degradation to civilization.

Yours,

P. DOUGHERTY.

DR. J. RICE, *Acting Agent.*

No. 47.

CHOCTAW AGENCY, *October* 20, 1845.

SIR: Herewith you will receive reports from six Choctaw, one Chickasaw, and one Quapaw school.

Several papers, relating to schools among the Creeks, were forwarded with the report of their agent on the 30th ult. Very little has been effected in the way of instruction, and not much can be expected until institutions on the manual labor plan are established in their country. The Creeks have, until very recently, opposed all propositions to educate their children; more because they regarded such propositions as schemes for obtaining their money without rendering any equivalent, than from any strong prejudice against improvement. As a people, they are remarkably docile, and only require to be shown the right way by those in whom they place confidence. Some pains have been taken to point out to them the advantages resulting from the system adopted by the Choctaws. The consequence is, they have become anxious to establish schools in their own country on the same plan.

When the treaty was negotiated last winter, a clause to that effect was inserted at their earnest solicitation. The clause was modified by the Senate; but being induced to believe their wishes would still be gratified, the Creeks assented to the change. As the application of their entire fund, in the way they desire, to the support of manual labor schools among them, would, unquestionably, be the most beneficial, I hope they will not be disappointed.

No report has been received directly from the Seminoles. Mr. Essex, whose statement was transmitted with other similar papers from Colonel

Logan, has been living in their immediate neighborhood for some time past, and is said to have exerted a favorable influence.

With the Quapaw school papers, you will find a document in which the chiefs request that their school fund may be placed under the control of the Rev. Samuel G. Patterson. In regard to this matter, I would respectfully repeat a former recommendation, that the education annuity of that tribe be confided to the Methodist society, leaving to that body the responsibility of selecting a suitable person to manage their school and superintend its operations.

Of the Chickasaw school, under the charge of Mr. Duncan, I know nothing beyond what is stated in the report of that gentleman. The plan of education approved by the department has not yet been carried into effect. I am informed by the society intrusted with its execution that measures are in progress for the purpose.

No accounts have been received from any of the teachers in the Cherokee country.

I deeply regret that other arduous duties have rendered it impossible to pay much attention, during the past year, to the different Choctaw seminaries. I can, therefore, do little more than refer you to the reports of the superintendents, which contain accounts of all in the nation but one—the Fort Coffee Academy.

This establishment has recently undergone an entire change in the persons of its teachers; the former superintendent, Mr. Goode, and the principal teacher, Mr. Benson, having left the Indian country. Their loss was deeply regretted, as their duties had been discharged with more than ordinary ability and fidelity. The new superintendent, Mr. McAlister, and the gentlemen who assist him, have all of them suffered from protracted illness since their arrival; however, they have not neglected the institution, and it is high praise to say that they have already shown themselves likely to make good the loss of their predecessors. Twenty additional scholars were received on the first instant in the school for boys, making the full complement of fifty; and the buildings for the female department have been so far completed as to admit of the reception of twenty girls.

A change has also taken place at Spencer Academy; Mr. McKinney having resigned his situation as superintendent. As yet, no successor has been appointed. The operations of the school are continued under the supervision of Mr. Wright, one of the teachers. The trustees reported, at their late examination, that the students had made considerable progress.

The report of Mr. Potts will show that the establishment, which the Choctaws have done me the honor to call the "Armstrong Academy," will not be ready for the reception of scholars until the 1st of November.

The Choctaw school trustees, who are all practical men, and take a deep interest in the cause of education, have expressed the highest gratification at the result of their visit to the different female schools. Of these, besides the female branch of Fort Coffee Academy, lately commenced, there are four, at which 102 girls are instructed and maintained at the joint expense of the Choctaws and of the American board of commissioners of foreign missions. For this purpose, the Indians contribute $7,800 per annum, and the missionary society $6,000. There are also instructed at the same schools 74 girls, whose other expenses are borne by their parents. The report of the trustees, together with my own observation on former occa-

sions, satisfies me that every effort is made at these schools to render the females intrusted to their care intelligent and useful women.

With great respect, &c.

WM. ARMSTRONG,
Acting superintendent, &c.

T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD, Esq.,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 48.

SPENCER ACADEMY, *September* 17, 1845.

DEAR SIR: The operations of Spencer Academy for the last year commenced on the 7th October, 1844. The number of scholars in a few days after that time was 97. They were arranged in divisions and classes according to the plan described in my last report, and under the instruction of the same teachers. The number in the institution has raised at different times, from the operation of several causes. The average attendance may be stated at 85 scholars from October 15 to March 19, and as 75 from April 21st to July 31st. On account of the appearance of the measles in the school, it became necessary to separate on the 19th of March, and the exercises were not resumed until April 21st; but, with that exception, the operations of the academy have proceeded without interruption.

During the past season the farm has been under the direction of Mr. David Cavender, a citizen of the nation. Its business has been conducted with a great degree of energy and skill. About 105 acres are in corn, and promise a good return; a suitable proportion of land has also been allotted for the cultivation of sweet potatoes, pumpkins, and peas. Provision for the stock has been made, by securing about 35 tons of good prairie hay, and about 60,000 bundles of fodder, which have been laid up in excellent order.

The year has been one of great difficulty and discouragement. Owing to the partial failure of last year's crops throughout all this region, provisions have been exceedingly scarce and dear. At times it was with extreme difficulty that the wants of our large family could be supplied. As the navigation of both the Arkansas and Red rivers was interrupted during the fall and a large part of the winter, suitable supplies of groceries and of clothing for the students were not received in time for the winter's consumption. This occasioned grievous complaints from various quarters, which could not be quelled by the utmost exertions of the superintendent, at the same time that it added considerably to the expenses of the institution. Our difficulties were also greatly increased by the want of suitable assistance in the management of our household affairs, the country not affording servants of sufficient experience and skill for a family so large, and provision not having been made for procuring them from a distance.

In the experience of the two years during which this institution [has been in existence,] many things have been learned which ought to have an influence in guiding its future operations.

Among other things, it is important that some method be devised to encourage the study of the English language. In the circumstances of the case, this language must be the grand vehicle of improvement to the

Choctaw nation. It contains a literature unspeakably rich and varied, whose stores are easily accessible to those who possess the key of knowledge. It is the language, too, of a race undoubtedly superior to every other in energetic enterprise, and whose conquests in sciences, commerce, and religion already encompass the globe. But when it is remembered how circumscribed the Choctaw literature must ever remain, the necessity of promoting the study of English, on the part of those who wish to advance beyond the elements of knowledge, must be very evident. In my opinion a considerable portion of time in the regular exercises of the school should be allotted to this study. Books such as a grammar, dictionary, and phrase book, should be prepared and published, if not on private account, at the public expense. It would not be amiss to give small rewards of medals or books, both as incentives to application and for excelling in translation and conversation. In this way a desire to excel would be excited; something definite would be presented to the aim of the student; progress in all other branches be promoted; learning by rote in a great measure abolished, and the difficult and important art of thinking be called into constant exercise.

Above all things else, experience has demonstrated the absolute necessity of conducting this institution on strictly religious principles, and of making distinct and decided efforts to bring religious truth to bear on the minds of the students. Knowledge does not necessarily subdue or refine the passions and elevate the aims of its possessor. Especially is it ineffectual when it is partial in its range, confined only to subjects which have no direct effect upon the moral feelings; and hence it has been found that those members of Indian tribes who have received this partial kind of education have not, as a general thing, answered the expectation of their friends. On the contrary, their capacity for mischief has been increased by it, and their disposition to adopt the vices of civilization greatly promoted. But the fear of God, the anticipation of a future state, joined with the hopes and renovating influences of the gospel, have a powerful tendency to rouse to exertion, and in the history of improvement have completely outdistanced the desire of acquisition on the imitative principle. Indeed, civilization, both in ancient and modern times, without Christianity, will not bear a close inspection; and the history of the whole world proves that the Christian religion is, indeed, "the grand civilizer of the human affections." This is not only true in the general, but also of all communities. Hence, in colleges it has been found by experience that the more zealous the conductors are to promote true religion among the students, and the greater the number of the pious to restrain and subdue the rest, the greater their prosperity; but that, on the contrary supposition, scenes of disorder, tumult, and rebellion, are of constant recurrence. And in some instances, where the founders of such institutions have aimed at the exclusion of religion, under the false notion of thereby leaving the minds of the students free for the adoption of such religious opinions as would be approved by the exercise of their more mature judgments, the result has proven to be a signal chastisement of their [rejection] of the inspired direction to "train up a child in the way he should go." Besides all this, it is to be remembered that the opportunities of bringing the Christian religion to bear on the Choctaw nation are peculiarly favorable. A large part of its youth of both sexes are now in the public schools; so that it is possible to get at the very heart of the nation, and that heart not pre-occupied by the cares or prejudices of mature life, but in its

youthful simplicity, and removed from much of the corrupting influences, which might be brought to bear upon it in any other situation, either at home or abroad. Why not embrace the opportunity to form sound religious principles, to bring the conscience under the power of truth; to hold up the law of God as the measure of duty, and his approbation as the best reward? It is evident that if this course be not pursued, the fatal effects of the neglect will be without remedy hereafter. It cannot be deviated from without running the risk of training up a set of men, in the course of a few years, who will be furnished with the means of overreaching their fellow-citizens with every incentive to mischievous ambition, and no restraint but the feeble checks of half-formed public sentiment.

As I am about to relinquish my part as superintendent of this institution, my motives for making one more remark I trust will not be misconstrued. Experience has proven that it will be absolutely impossible, in an institution of the extent of Spencer Academy, to have an efficient police, and preserve in every department order, economy, and system, without providing a full complement of well-qualified assistants, and sustaining the head of the institution in the full exercise of authority. In all large establishments a division of *labor* is absolutely necessary; the less it is complete, every thing will be in confusion; and if the confusion do not result in the ruin of the whole, it will be owing to the over-exertion of a few, who must ultimately sink under the burden.

But at the same time, unity, energy, and decision are the natural consequences of reposing authority in the hands of an intelligent and upright person, and those are qualities which will constitute the very life of the institution.

With much respect, &c., sincerely yours,

EDMUND McKINNEY,
Supt. S. Academy.

Major Wm. Armstrong,
U. S. Agent for the Choctaws.

No. 49.

Good Water, *August* 7, 1845.

Dear Sir: I herewith send you a report, &c. of the Koonsher female seminary for the year ending July 22d, 1845.

This school commenced on the first of October, with 16 scholars under the appropriation. On the first of February we were prepared to take 17 more. But owing to the measles, only 15 of the number selected arrived, and this number did not all arrive at the specified time. We have had 30 under the appropriation—one boarded by her parents—and 7 day scholars; making 38 in all.

Studying English grammar, 6; geography, 13; arithmetic, 13; writing, 25; read and spell well, 25; easy reading and spelling, 10. The class in grammar had been twice through Alguss, and had commenced parsing. Six of the class in geography have recited from maps, and all other questions, more than half of Mitchell's large geography. In arithmetic, one advanced as far as proportion. The others made advances more slowly; some only attained the simple rules. This school has been taught 10

months, lacking only 8 days, without any interruption. The Bible is daily and carefully studied by all who can read; and each scholar is required to commit and recite a verse each day. These schools have been opened each day with prayer, and closed with singing and prayer; singing is taught as one branch of education. Miss J. C. Downer and Miss C. M. Belden have had the charge of the girls in school for about 8 months. Time in school, 6 hours a day.

The girls out of the school have been under the care of Mrs. Hotchkin and L. E. Tilton; Mrs. H. has attended to the washing, ironing, &c., Miss Tilton to needle work, knitting, &c. Here I would say, that the girls have towards each other manifested kind and gentle deportment; towards their teachers love, respect and obedience. Miss Downer, who has had long experience in teaching in New England, says, without any hesitancy, that these scholars are as easily managed and are as apt to learn as any others. For the last six weeks previous to the examination there were only three words of Choctaw spoken by the scholars, viz: wak foni tush-pa. The improvement made in speaking the English language was highly gratifying to us and to committee. In fact, education will do but little good unless the girls and boys are taught to *speak* the English language. Separate from the above schools, Mrs. Hotchkin has kept a school for boys four months. In this school 6 studied geography, arithmetic, reading and spelling, (one went through Adams's arithmetic,) 3 in easy reading and spelling, and 3 spelling in words of two to three syllables, in all 12 scholars; of these all but 3 speak the English language. The visiting committee, Messrs. Pitchlynn, Harkins and Jones, together with the parents of the children then present, appeared highly gratified with the appearance of the scholars, and said publicly, that their expectations were fully realized in the attainments made by the scholars in the knowledge of books, work, behaviour, &c. With one or two exceptions our scholars are promising, and I think with the teachers that we now have, if their health should continue good, we may look forward to a school that will not be inferior to institutions of the same kind in New England or any other England.

A sabbath school has been sustained for the same length of time, i. e. 10 months; and I have no doubt that the prosperity of the week day school has been greatly augmented by this. Our schools must be governed and influenced by religion if they are to prosper. Without this influence they are like a body without a soul; light, to be durable, must come from the sun of righteousness; knowledge that will profit the possessor must come from God.

In regard to the expense of the buildings, the manner, and the materials of which the buildings were erected, the committee expressed their entire satisfaction, and seemed to rejoice that they had good substance and convenient houses for their children.

The contracts for this seminary are now all closed, and the liabilities all paid. We are now ready to take the whole number of boarders. We notified the committee accordingly, and wished the whole to come forward on the 1st of October next. In making this preparation, much labor has been performed; in fact, there has been no *idle bread* eaten at this place for the past year.

My labors as a missionary have been necessarily curtailed by the numberless cares of the station. Since my return from the north, with the teach-

ers and other helpers, last December, my attention has been confined more closely to the affairs of the school, and other things have more or less been left without that care which they have received formerly; yet religion is still gaining ground, and the precepts of the gospel are understood, and loved and obeyed. Several have made a profession of religion in this vicinity within a few weeks. One from our church has died in the triumphs of the Christian faith. The temperance cause has this year been left in the back-ground, and we see the evils of this neglect. Temperance is the stepping-stone of all improvement among the Indians. This must precede all other improvements. The course of the intemperate is downward, and only so, till he sinks to rise no more; and I have no hope for the Indians unless they can be induced to become temperate. We are now trying to revive interest on this subject. We are to have a large celebration on the 23d instant.

Industry and economy are gaining ground in this part of the nation. There has been more ground cultivated this year than at any former period. The crops appeared well—never better, until the drought set in about the 4th of July. The corn planted in March will make good crops; but I am sorry to say that some who planted late will scarcely make their seed. The crop of oats never was better, and the Indians find it profitable to raise them.

All who act on tee-total temperance principles are accumulating property. Their fields are better cultivated; they live better—are better clad—take more interest in schools—and, in fact, are better men every way.

I consider money and time spent to promote temperance, judiciously, well laid out. I hope the time is coming when our white neighbors will not entice the Indians to drink, for the sake of a little paltry gain.

The improvement of the general health of the Indians, and others who reside among them, should call forth the strongest expressions of gratitude. There is a most wonderful change in this respect, and it clearly shows to us the goodness and mercy of God.

From what we have seen in days that are past, and from what we now see, we have reason to believe that *sympathy* from the whites and *mercy* from God are all that the Indians need to raise them to Christianity and civilization. God has clearly shown that he has a place in Heaven for some of them, and I do hope that many of them will find that blessed rest.

I am, with great respect, yours, truly,

EBENEZER HOTCHKIN,
Superintendent Koonsher Female Seminary.

Major WILLIAM ARMSTRONG,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Choctaw Agency.

No. 50.

PINE RIDGE, *August* 12, 1845.

DEAR SIR: I have the honor of transmitting the annual report of the Chuahla Female Seminary for the year ending June 30, 1845.

The examination of the seminary was on the 24th ultimo. It was attended by two of the trustees specially appointed by the national council for the purpose, and also by a large number of the parents and friends of

the school. All appeared to be gratified. The trustees, in particular, expressed much satisfaction with the improvement the pupils had made.

The whole number of scholars the past term has been thirty-six. The board and instruction of twenty four of these have been paid from the joint funds appropriated to the support of this seminary by the general council of the Choctaw nation, and by the American board of commissioners of foreign missions.

The board and instruction of three have been given by the mission. The board of five has been paid by their parents, and four have boarded at home. The whole number boarded at the seminary has been thirty-two.

The accompanying paper, marked "B," presents the names of the pupils, together with the studies to which they have attended. The most approved school books have been used. Two commenced the alphabet in December and January last. All are now able to read in the Testament, and all are required to recite, daily, a verse or part of a verse from memory.

We regard singing as an important branch of female education; and the progress of the pupils in this art has been gratifying.

All the pupils, when out of school, are required to take a part in the labors of the dining-room and kitchen; and, for this purpose, are divided into companies, each division taking its turn.

They have also been instructed in making cloths, in fancy work, in knitting, netting, &c. Our object has been to give them habits of industry. With the assistance of those who have had the oversight of this part of their work, they have made about forty pairs of pantaloons for Spencer Academy; for which, payment is expected. They also manufactured various articles of fancy work, which have been sold. The avails of the whole, which may amount to twenty or thirty dollars, will be applied to furnish books for the native Sunday schools in the western or Pushamataha district, where books are much needed, and for which no appropriation has been made from the public funds.

All who board at the station have attended a Sunday school. Their progress in acquiring a knowledge of the doctrines and duties taught in the Gospel has been good.

My labors as a missionary have been similar to those of the preceding year. I have preached at Doaksville and at Fort Towson, somewhat more than half of the time. Every other month, alternately with Mr. Hotchkin, I have visited the settlements on the Boggy and the Blue, and preached at our usual preaching places. These tours usually occupy twelve days, including two Sabbaths.

The number added to the churches to which Mr. Hotchkin and myself have preached, has been much less the past twelve months than the twelve months preceding. Since the last report there have been added to the

Pine Ridge church	11	on examination, and	3	by letter.
Mayhew church	9	"	4	"
Chickasaw church	1	"		
Mount Pleasant church	1	"	14	"

Within the bounds of these churches there are three Sunday schools, taught by natives. In these schools there are from 60 to 75 learners, mostly adults. These schools are in need of books. In all the churches connected with our mission there were, according to the reports made to presbytery last April, six hundred members.

There has been contributed at Fort Towson and at Doaksville, for the A. B. C. F. M. and for other benevolent objects, $473 12½.

We would gratefully acknowledge our obligations to the Council of Administration at Fort Towson, and to the officers generally, for their kindness, and for the important aid they have given us in many ways in the prosecution of our work. Especially would we acknowledge our obligations to Doctor Simpson, surgeon of the post, who has kindly and gratuitously acted as our physician in attending on the sick, both of the mission family and of the pupils of the seminary. There have been some cases among the latter requiring skilful and prompt attention, which has always been cheerfully rendered.

Considering the number in our family, we have great cause of gratitude to God, who has granted us so large a measure of health.

The dwelling-house that was being erected at the time of the last report has been so far completed as to be comfortable. A frame barn has also been built; and we hope, in the course of the ensuing winter, to erect a larger and more convenient school-house.

In accordance with the suggestion in my last report, the buildings have been erected, without encroaching on the operations of the school. We have had our full complement of boarding scholars. This has rendered it necessary for our missionary board to make a liberal appropriation for the expenses of this seminary; having paid within the year ending June 30, 1845, in cash received at the station and on drafts - - $642 91
Paid for purchases for the seminary in Boston - - - 252 99
Travelling expenses of assistants to and from the nation - 226 92

$1,122 82

And there has been paid by the missionary board within the same time, for all the stations and schools in the nation, under their direction, about $6,000.

Respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

C. KINGSBURY,
Superintendent of Chuahla Female Seminary.

Major Wm. Armstrong,
Superintendent Indian Territory.

No. 51.

Mahew, C. N., *August* 27, 1845.

Dear Sir: It is doubtless equally as gratifying to every well-wisher to Indian reform, as it is to those who are laboring to promote this desirable object, to hear of their progress, yearly, in those acquirements which belong to christianized and civilized society. Their steady advancement is a sure presage to their ultimate success. There are many obstacles in the way of their becoming that enlightened people which every philanthropist must desire to see. There appears to be a sad deficiency in a correct knowledge of the situation of many of the Indian tribes, and their advancement in civilized habits. They are too frequently misrepresented by those whose knowledge is merely superficial, and, I believe, exert a bad influence upon those

whose duty it is to extend a helping hand to the needy. The money contributed, by the benevolent, for their benefit, is looked upon as a useless expenditure. Whilst much is said and written of their vices, their virtues are seldom mentioned. Instances do exist among them of a misapplication of privileges; but is not the same to be said of their more favored white brethren? That this people have made advancements in civilized habits, no impartial observer can doubt.

Too much is looked for from the Indian. Comparatively speaking, but a few years have elapsed since much effort was made to enlighten the Indian: and when we take into consideration that old established habits and superstitions are to be eradicated by instilling into their minds the purer precepts of the gospel, and education; when we look at the Choctaws as they were, and now look at them as they really are, we can adopt the language of inspiration and say "What hath God wrought."

At the last session of the general council an appropriation of $2,900 was made yearly for the establishment of a manual labor institution, to be called Armstrong Academy, to be under the direction of the Baptist board of missions, provided they would give yearly $1,000. With pleasure I have to report that the proposition has been acceded to by the American Indian mission association, whose board is located at Louisville, Kentucky.

The necessary buildings for a commencement, and the clearing and fencing of forty acres of land, were contracted for last winter, and were to be completed by the 15th of September, for $2,700. The buildings cannot be completed before the 15th of October. I hope to be able to begin the school by the 1st of November. The forty acres of land have been planted in corn and promised fair for a good crop, but it has been materially injured by the drought. We shall make about half a crop.

The board have sent on clothing, bedding, and other necessaries to nearly the amount of $800 of their $1,000, which have all arrived in safety.

The crops in the country have suffered much for the want of rain, and it is very doubtful whether a sufficiency will be raised for their consumption.

The cause of temperance has languished, but I trust it is being again revived; some have violated their pledge, whilst others have remained firm. It has many strong advocates among the Choctaws.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

RAMSEY D. POTTS.

Capt. Wm. Armstrong.

No. 52.

Stockbridge, on the Mountain Fork,
Choctaw Nation, September 1, 1845.

My dear Sir: In sitting down to prepare my annual report to you for the current year, the peculiar mercies of God in sparing my life, and in granting life and health to my family, and to others associated with me, call for an expression of thanks and praise at my hand. In former years, as you know, we have been afflicted; this year, thus far, goodness and mercy have crowned our lives.

The officers of the American board at Boston have, in a true spirit of

benevolence, accepted of the Iyanubi Female Seminary, and have sent out teachers, and a steward with a family, to reside there and take charge of the same.

On the 21st of November, 1844, Mr. David H. Winship and lady, with an infant son, and Misses Lydia S. Hall and Harriet N. Keyes, arrived at my place. The buildings at the seminary were not then completed; but in about three weeks the school house was so far completed that a neighborhood school was commenced; and soon after, the steward's house was in a condition to be comfortably occupied, and Mr. Winship moved into it. Since then, he has attended to the farm, and the various secular labors of the seminary. He labored at the seminary previous to his removal.

Misses Hall and Keyes have attended to the instruction of the scholars, and the preparation of the bedding for the boarding scholars. A large amount of labor and expense has been necessary to prepare for the opening of the school in the fall.

About 50 different scholars have attended the school; many of these were punctual and studious. The average number in attendance was less than 40.

In April, there was a public examination of the school, and a vacation of about two weeks, at the close of which the school was opened again. The measles prevailed in this neighborhood, which prevented a full collection of the scholars. Some remained at home to attend to their work.

On the 14th of July, there was another public examination, at the request of Col. Pitchlynn, one of the trustees, who, with the chief, Col. Thomas Leflore, designed being present. They were detained at home by sickness in their families. Messrs. Thomas J. Pitchlynn and Daniel Folsom attended on behalf of the nation. The scholars were examined in reading, spelling, writing, arithmetic, geography, botany, and music. The examination made a happy impression on the minds of the friends who were present.

There has been a flourishing Sabbath school taught in the seminary, and two others taught in neighboring villages.

The buildings are nearly all completed. The farm is yet small, but it is a good one; about 25 acres of land are under fence, and 17 in cultivation. We trust we shall be prepared to commence the school by the 1st of next October.

The location is regarded as healthy; and the seminary, being resorted to for instruction not only by those who may enter it under the provisions of the law, but others residing near, or boarded here by their parents or other friends, will be, we trust, highly useful to the nation. The advantages of a permanent character resulting from a pious and wise education of the daughters of any people cannot be soon told. This is a new institution; grant us time and opportunity to teach our portion of pupils.

It is a pleasure to have an opportunity of preparing this brief document, seeing it pertains to a Choctaw female seminary. Within a few years, many important and hopeful changes have taken place. Since the day that you first came among the Choctaws, and aided and labored in their removal to this land, you have been a witness of the advancement of the Choctaws in improvements of a solid and important character.

My own station I have called Stockbridge, after the name of my native village in Berkshire county, Massachusetts. Last year we changed our location, on account of long-continued and often-repeated seasons of illness

in my family. We are now located on a high ridge, a few minutes' walk from the seminary. We have been much favored with health. Our ordinary missionary labors have here been pursued, and we hope not in vain. In a few days, twenty-five years will be completed since I left my father's dwelling to come among the Choctaws. During these years the Lord hath shown great mercy to this tribe of red men. As you very well know, they have a regularly organized civil government. What we witnessed at the general council last October spoke much in their praise. I might speak of Christian churches organized in the land; schools, Sabbath schools, temperance societies; besides many other plain marks of improvement. This we may regard as a good beginning.

But it is a melancholy truth, that, as the Choctaws acquire property and make improvements, so do others become more industrious to come as near them as they can with ardent spirits. We must never cease in our efforts to promote the cause of temperance. It is an honor to this nation that they have made ardent spirits contraband goods; and if any would have the temerity and wickedness to introduce it, that it may be drank, it is lawful to treat it as rabid animals are treated in the United States.

There is one subject I would like to introduce before I close, and this is the formation of a Choctaw agricultural society. Will not the measure bear yet? If once fairly under way, might not much good be done, especially in the improvement of horses, cattle, sheep, swine, and the like, as well as in the improvement of implements of agriculture, and of all the products of the field, and the various articles of domestic manufacture? And would it not be matter of much gratification to yourself to be instrumental of its formation, and to witness the improvement which might follow? Good old Red Switch, just before he died, in a public speech, told his people: "You will never see your forefathers again; such men will rise no more. But you will see better things—learning, religion, better schoolhouses and churches, in the nation." His speech is not forgotten. May the Lord spare you, and make you an instrument of much good to the Choctaws and the red men of our land.

From your friend and obedient servant,

CYRUS BYINGTON.

Major WILLIAM ARMSTRONG,
Acting Supt. S. W. Territory, Choctaw Agency.

No. 53.

Extract from report of the female school at Wheelock, Choctaw nation, under the superintendence of the Rev. Alfred Wright.

"*July*, 1845.

"Of the 14 pupils boarded at Wheelock, (not on the appropriation,) the greater part are supported by their parents, several by the mission, or by benevolent friends. Of the 38 boarded, 22 were in the family of the superintendent, and 16 in the family of Mr. Copeland. In this way the family character of the boarding-school is better preserved than it could be if all boarded at one place. And we deem it important that our boarding pupils be instructed, as far as possible, as they would be in a well regulated family, so that when out of school our boarders constitute two separate families.

"More than two years have now passed since this female school went into operation under its present arrangement, and I am happy to have it in my power to state that so far the results have been favorable. The improvement of the pupils in books, in needle-work, in the several branches of domestic employment, and in their general deportment, has fully realized our expectations, and has made a favorable impression on the minds of the people. And I think I can say without hesitation, that at no former time has the school stood higher in the confidence of the Choctaw than at the present. And this can hardly fail to continue to be the case; for the more the results of the female schools are developed, the stronger and deeper will be the conviction of their usefulness and importance, and the more clearly will the wisdom and patriotism of the majority of the council of 1842, acting in concurrence with your views, be seen and appreciated, and the more will they be acknowledged worthy to be called the benefactors of the nation.

"The school, as to numbers, was for the first two-thirds of the year the same as when the last report was made, consisting of 52 regular attendants. In the month of March the measles broke out in the neighborhood, some of the children were taken home, and those that remained were sick, some a shorter and some a longer time, so that the exercises of the school were much interrupted, and the progress less the last term than it would have been under more favorable circumstances. Still the proficiency of our pupils has been very encouraging and satisfactory. Their progress is witnessed in their increasing love of knowledge, and the habits of study which they have acquired, and which will enable them to pursue their studies to more advantage hereafter. As heretofore, the study of the Bible is still made prominent in the school; for without the Bible we are fully persuaded that the laudable object intended to be accomplished by our female schools cannot be attained. A cultivated intellect and external accomplishments are not alone sufficient to ensure to woman that wide and elevating influence in society which our beneficent Creator designed she should exert. To do this the heart must be educated, the heart must be brought under the influence of that morality and those Christian principles which the Bible inculcates.

"It may not be uninteresting to state that seven of the Sabbath-schools established by the national council are within the sphere of the evangelical labors connected with this station. These schools are generally taught on Saturday also, and in several the English as well as Choctaw is taught. These schools embrace from 250 to 300 learners. They afford convenient places for preaching the gospel. At them all may a congregation be found every Sabbath ready to listen to the great truths of the Bible. Three of them, where the gospel has exerted most of its benign influence, are doing remarkably well. Another, quite remote from Wheelock, where there is a desire to have preaching, is also flourishing.

"The preaching of the gospel is attended with a divine and saving power. Not far from 30 have professed their faith in Christ, and have united with the Wheelock church since the last report was forwarded.

"Yours, respectfully,

"ALFRED WRIGHT.

"Major Wm. Armstrong,
"*U. S. Agent, Choctaw nation.*"

No. 54.

PLEASANT GROVE, *August* 23, 1845.

DEAR SIR: With pleasure I again enter upon the duty of reporting the state of the mission and mission school under my care, with the assistance of my wife.

Through the providence of God our lives and health (in some degree) have been preserved.

In the different neighborhoods I have visited, I have had generally a regular, respectful attendance on the preaching of the gospel, which has been mostly among the more enlightened portion that speak the English language; this circumstance has grown out of my not being able to get an interpreter. Could this difficulty be avoided, we should be enabled, by the blessing of God, to exert a moral influence that would tell well upon the destiny of this nation.

Our school, while we have had in its perpetuity many trying circumstances, yet it never has, at any period of its existence, been in a better state, or making better progress, than at the present.

We have twenty-five regular scholars. More than one half of this number are reading, and five in the New Testament, and satisfactorily answer to the questions proposed in their lessons; five are learning to write. The children show a spriteliness of mind seldom, I think, met with in the Indian character; and I am still of the opinion that, were these Chickasaw children placed in a situation favorable for mental instruction under proper moral control, no nation might expect to realize more on their future prosperity than this; and, with means ample for such a noble purpose, may it not be expected through your agency, and that of the head-men of this nation, and the sanction of our excellent government, *that the period will soon arrive* when every Chickasaw child will have within its reach the blessings of at least a common education.

With feelings of high respect, I am, sir, your sincere friend,

E. B. DUNCAN,

Missionary on the part of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Col. A. M. M. UPSHAW,

Chickasaw Agent.

No. 55.

CRAWFORD SEMINARY,

Quapaw Nation, August 30, 1845.

DEAR SIR: In accordance with the regulations of the department, I beg leave to present my annual report of the condition of this institution.

I have the happiness to state, that in no former year have the scholars, who have attended the school regularly, made greater proficiency in the primary branches of education, than the past.

The pupils are divided into five small classes:

1st class—reading, writing, arithmetic, and geography.

2d class—reading and spelling correctly.

3d class—have commenced reading and spelling in three syllables.

4th class—spelling in two syllables.

5th class—in the alphabet.

The children are instructed in all kinds of business common among us. The boys spend a part of the intervals of study at work on the farm; the girls at sewing and housewifery. We have on our list the names of twenty-five full blood Quapaw children; but the average number in attendance during the past year does not probably exceed eighteen. It will be seen by an agreement entered into between the Quapaw chiefs and council and myself, that it is the wish of all concerned to unite their school funds with the annual appropriations from the missionary society, which, if accomplished, will enable us greatly to enlarge and improve our school.

Very respectfully, &c.

SAML. G. PATTERSON.

Gen. JAMES S. RAINS,
Neosho Sub-agent.

No. 56.

JULY 8, 1845.

The undersigned makes the following report of the public and private schools, church members, temperance members, &c. in the district of Flint, to wit: One public school at Honey Hill, taught by Walter Agoss, a native Cherokee, aged twenty-two; place of birth Habersham county, Cherokee nation, east Georgia—number of male scholars in attendance thirty; females twenty. Total number fifty.

Second public school at Clearspring, taught by Richard S. Williams, a citizen of the United States, aged twenty-four years; place of birth Davidsonville, Lawrence county, Arkansas—number of male scholars twenty-two; females thirty-one. Total number fifty-three.

Third public school at Springfield, taught by Wm. L. Vann, a native Cherokee, aged nineteen years; place of birth Turnip mountain, old nation, State of Georgia—number of male scholars seventeen; females sixteen. Total number thirty three.

Fourth.—One private school at Muddy Spring, taught by Miss E. D. Hoyt, a native Cherokee, aged twenty-four years—number of male scholars thirteen; females eleven. Total number twenty-four.

Number of church members in the Methodist Episcopal church, one hundred and eighty-six.

Number of members given by the Baptists eighteen. The Presbyterians stated that they had already reported their number to the agent.

There is one public blacksmith shop; the contract taken by Mrs. Pack, a native Cherokee, and worked by her slaves.

There have been three executions for capital offences within the last four years back; one convicted and pardoned by the chief.

There cannot be any exact account of the temperance members in the district at the present; but on the 3d instant, at a meeting in the district, two hundred and seventy were present; and it is estimated, by myself and others, that there were at least fifty who did not attend to give in their names.

Sir, I have taken some trouble in ascertaining as near as possible the

exact number of public and private schools, teachers and scholars, temperance and church members, &c.

JAY HICKS,
J. D. Ct., Flint district.

P. M. BUTLER,
United States agent for the Cherokees.

No. 57.

CHEROKEE GOING SNAKE DISTRICT, C. N.,
July 2, 1845.

SIR: In reply to your inquiries, I answer—
Name, Thomas Frye, A. B.
Age, rising 28.
Place of birth, Maine, Hancock county.
Number of pupils attending school—

First session—Males		32
	Females	2
Total	-	34
Second session—Males		23
	Females	6
Total	-	29

Whole number for the year 42.
Respectfully yours, &c.

THOS. FRYE,
N. S. Teacher.

Mr. MOSES DOWNING, *District Judge.*

No. 58.

CHEROKEE FEMALE SEMINARY,
Going Snake District, July 3, 1845.

SIR: The yearly session of this school commenced the first Monday in September, 1844, and closed July 2d, 1845. Term ten months. Whole number of pupils forty-one—females exclusively.

Studies as follows: Reading, spelling, writing, arithmetic, geography, history, English grammar, natural philosophy, Watts on the Mind.

Yours obediently,
SARAH H. HIBBARD,
Teacher.

Mr. MOSES DOWNING, *District Judge.*

No. 59.

CHEROKEE, GOING SNAKE DISTRICT,
August 11, 1845.

SIR: By request of Messrs. G. Hicks, Thomas Foreman, Moses Downing, and Lewis Downing, I send you the enclosed answers to several inquiries on which you request information.

In addition to the enclosed, I beg leave to add: the Baptist church, located in this district, contains about three hundred members; many of them, however, reside out of the district.

There are in the nation four organized Baptist churches, and three branches, at which the ordinances are administered. There are four ordained preachers, Cherokees, and two whites. The whole number of members about one thousand.

The Baptist board of foreign missions have, at this place, a printing press, furnished with Cherokee and English type; Mr. Hervey Upham printer. We publish a small paper in the Cherokee language, of which I send you a specimen. I also send you a few copies of a tract, which we have translated, and printed an edition of five thousand.

We are translating the scriptures and other matter; chiefly with a view to the benefit of the full Cherokees. In the work of translation, I am assisted by my second son, and occasionally by Mr. John Foster. The Methodists have a society in this district, but I do not know the number of members.

Within the last four years there has been one conviction and execution for a capital offence.

There are two more national schools in this district, from which they have not been able to get information. They hope, however, that this deficiency will be supplied by the information furnished by Mrs. Payne, the superintendent of public schools.

On behalf of G. Hicks, T. Foreman, Moses Downing, and Lewis Downing.

I remain, dear sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EVAN JONES.

To Gov. P. M. BUTLER,
United States Agent.

P. S. Public blacksmith, Robert Bushyhead, a Cherokee, age twenty-two years; place of birth, Cherokee nation, east. Assistant blacksmith, Jack Steel, a Cherokee, age about forty-five years; place of birth, Cherokee nation, east.

E. J.

No. 60.

PARK HILL, *July* 18, 1845.

SIR: In answer to yours of the 7th instant permit me to say:

The only white persons employed as missionaries or assistant missionaries of the American board of missions, at Park Hill, are myself and wife, and Miss Nancy Thompson.

I was born at Worcester, Massachusetts, on the 19th January, 1798, but

brought up, from the age of two years, at Peacham, Vermont; graduated at the college in Burlington, Vermont; studied theology at the seminary at Andover, Massachusetts, and joined the Cherokee mission, first, at Brainerd in October, 1825.

My wife, then Miss Erminia Nash, joined the Cherokee mission, at Creek Path, in November, 1825. She was born at Cummington, Massachusetts, October 12, 1801; but removed with her father, Rev. Daniel Nash, to the State of New York, when she was six years of age. Her last residence, before joining the mission, was at Lowville, in that State. She was married to me at this place in April, 1841; my first wife having died the preceding year.

Miss Nancy Thompson was born in Blount county, Tennessee, and is fifty-three years of age. She joined the Cherokee mission, as an assistant missionary, in 1826, having however previously, for some time, assisted the missionaries at Brainerd.

Rev. Stephen Foreman, native Cherokee, is employed by the American board of missions, in connexion with this station. He is thirty-seven years of age. He preaches in both the English and Cherokee languages, or interprets as occasion may require, and aids in translating, writing and preparing for the press Cherokee books.

Mr. John Candy is employed by the mission as printer. Mr. Candy is a native Cherokee, about 37 years of age, and acquired the art of printing at New Echota, in the office of the Cherokee Phœnix.

Mr. Daniel Dwight Hitchcock is temporarily employed as teacher of our school, receiving payment partly from the mission, and partly by way of tuition from the pupils. He is a son of Mr. Jacob Hitchcock, of Dwight mission; is 22 years of age; was born at Old Dwight, then in the Cherokee nation, now in Arkansas, and graduated at Amherst college, Massachusetts, in 1844.

Miss Avery, the former teacher of our school, has been obliged, by the failure of her health, to relinquish the employment, and return to Massachusetts, whence she came. In consequence of this, the school has been taught only 20 weeks since my last report.

Whole number of pupils: Cherokees 34; whites 5—total 39. The following is the amount of printing in the Cherokee and other Indian languages, done at our press for the year past:

In Cherokee.

Treatise on Marriage, 2d edition,	20 pp.	24 to.	5,000 copies—	100,000	pages in all.
Miscellaneous Pieces,	24 pp.	"	4,000 copies—	96,000	"
Cherokee Primer, 5th edition	24 pp.	"	1,000 copies—	24,000	"
Epistles to Timothy	28 pp.	"	5,000 copies—	140,000	"
Cherokee Hymns, 7th edition	69 pp.	"	5,000 copies—	345,000	"
Cherokee Almanac for 1845	36 pp.	12 mo.	600 copies—	21,600	"
			20,600 copies.	716,600 pages.	

In Choctaw.

Child's Book on Creation, 2d edition	14 pp.	12 mo.	2,000 copies—	28,000	pages in all.
Bible Stories	24 pp.	"	2,000 copies—	48,000	"
Character and Works of God	30 pp.	"	2,000 copies—	60,000	"
The New Birth	16 pp.	"	2,000 copies—	32,000	"
Sinners in the hands of an angry God	28 pp.	"	2,000 copies—	56,000	"
I will give liberally	16 pp.	"	2,000 copies—	32,000	"
The Lord's Day	4 pp.	"	2,000 copies—	8,000	"
Salvation by Jesus Christ, and other pieces	28 pp.	"	2,000 copies—	56,000	"
			16,000 copies.	320,000 pages.	

In Creek.

Muscogee Hymns - - - -	48 pp.	24 to.	600 copies—	28,800 pages in all.

Total books and pamphlets - - 37,200. Total pages - - - 1,065,400.

To the church at this station belong—

Cherokee members - - - -	22
White members - - - -	10
Black member - - - -	1
Total - - - -	33

I have not the happiness to report any manifest advancement of the cause of religion, in the neighborhood of this station, within the year past; nor do I perceive any material change in the state of morals.

I am, respectfully, yours,

S. A. WORCESTER.

P. M. BUTLER, Esq.;
Cherokee Agent.

No. 61.

TAHLEQUAH DISTRICT, CHEROKEE NATION,
July 22, 1845.

There are two denominations of Christians in this district, having regular established churches.

The Methodist Episcopal Church have three or four places of preaching in the district, and have small societies at each place, but the exact number of professors of this denomination in the district cannot be fairly ascertained; as some of their societies are contiguous to the district line, and members reside in other districts. The probable number is about 125.

The Congregational, or Presbyterian society have one regularly established church at Park Hill; 2 resident preachers—1 a Missionary, citizen of the United States, the other a native of the Cherokee Nation. Male members, 3 whites, 11 Cherokees—14; female members, 7 whites, 11 Cherokees, 1 black, 19; total 33.

The mission school at Park Hill is rather a neighborhood school, composed of males, 11; females, 8; total 19.

The above school is taught by Daniel D. Hitchcock, a citizen of the United States, a native of Old Dwight, Arkansas, 22 years of age.

There are two public schools in this district: one on Fourteen Mile Creek, composed of males, 11; females, 7; total 18.

Teacher, Wm. H. Simpson, resident of Arkansas, 30 years of age.

Public school on Caney—males, 41; females, 20; total 61. Martin V. Root, teacher; citizen by marriage; born in Windham county, Vermont, aged 31 years.

Common school lately established at Tahlequah, taught by Miss Nancy Hoyt, a native Cherokee, aged 18 years: males, 13; females, 12; total 25.

There is no temperance society exclusively for the district. The Na-

tional temperance society has its annual meetings at Tahlequah; but we are not able to give you the exact number belonging to it, probably between two and three hundred.

One public blacksmith-shop, located at Tahlequah, and so far as we are able to say, has been well conducted, with much advantage to the citizens. Wm. Williams, the public blacksmith, is a citizen of the Cherokee Nation by marriage, is about 50 years of age; we have not ascertained his place of birth, but believe it is North Carolina.

The assistant blacksmith is a negro man of his own.

The number of convictions and executions for murder within the last four years, or since the adoption of the Union and constitution in 1839, is four.

We submit the foregoing statement on the several points we have touched upon, as being as near correct as we are able to ascertain.

Yours, &c.,

RILEY KEYS,
DAVID CARTER,
JOHNSON FOREMAN.

No. 62.

DWIGHT MISSION, *July* 24, 1845.

DEAR SIR: In answer to yours of the 7th instant I now reply. Our mission is in a more prosperous condition than it has been for some time past. We have more help and more means to use.

The plans of operation in our establishment are all ancient, and need modification to meet the spirit of the age, and the present state of advancement among the people. This will doubtless be accomplished in due time; yet I doubt whether all our neighbors allow this mission full credit for all the good influence they have really exerted in years past. The school is soon to receive new teachers, and undergo some modifications; but it is not yet determined what they will be. The school is useful as it is; but it is not of so high a character, compared with what is about us, as it should be.

The school numbered the last term, on an average, 45 scholars. It is exclusively a female school. The ages of the girls from about 7 to 18 years. The scholars are almost all half breeds, or more or less white in their descent—*very* few are full Cherokees. Our object is not to educate any particular class of the people, but to teach any that come, and show the people a model school. The more degraded among the people do not feel the need of education, and will not keep their children here till they can be educated. We get such as we can, and keep them as long as we can.

I hope the school will be made a high school for young ladies—a school worthy of the patronage of any class of people in any circumstances.

The following, I think, is what you ask: James Orr, farmer, born Hancock, New Hampshire, May 19, 1791; Mrs. Minerva W. Orr, born Randolph, Vermont; Mr. Jacob Hitchcock, superintendent, born Brinfield, Massachusetts, September 7, 1792; Mrs. Nancy B. Hitchcock, born Eastbury, Connecticut, January 19, 1791; Miss Ellen Stitson, born Kingston, Massachusetts, March 30, 1783; Mr. Fullogg Day, teacher, born Sheffield, Massachusetts, January 23, 1813; Mrs. Mary L. Day, born Aurora, Erie

county, New York, December 1, 1819; Rev. Worcester Willey, missionary, born Cumpton, New Hampshire, September 1, 1808; Mrs. Mary Ann F. Willey, born Andover, Massachusetts, September 25, 1820; Miss Hannah Moore, born Union, Connecticut, March 22, 1808. Mr. Hitchcock has one son about 20 years old; Mr. Day has one daughter 2 years old.

The great hindrance to all our efforts to do good to the people is the influence of political divisions among them: what they have been and what they are. We have learned to dread the influence of the United States government and of designing white men, more than all dissensions among the Indians. The number of scholars in school about the same each term.

Yours, &c.,

W. WILLEY.

Hon. P. M. BUTLER, *Cherokee Agent.*

No. 63.

SALINE DISTRICT, CHEROKEE NATION,
July 12, 1845.

SIR: According to your request and instructions we received from you, we proceed to give you the following report:

1st. There are two public schools in this district; one on Spring creek, near the residence of Joseph Vann. This school numbers 19 scholars—13 males, and 6 females; Edwin Archer, teacher, aged 30 years, and a native of the State of New York.

The other school is situated near the residence of the Rev. John Wickliffe, on Saline creek. This school numbers 26 scholars—16 males, and 10 females; A. N. Chamberlain, teacher, aged 24 years, a native of the Cherokee nation east. There are two private schools in this district; one kept at the residence of Captain John Rogers, three miles south of the Grand Saline. This school numbers 9 scholars—4 males, and 5 females; John S. Crump, teacher, aged 33 years, and a native of the State of Virginia.

The other school is kept at the residence of Judge McNair, five miles north of Grand Saline. This school numbers 10 scholars—6 males, and 4 females; James Nobles, teacher, aged 65 years, and a native of the State of New York.

There is one public blacksmith shop in this district; Leory Marcum is the smith, and James Marcum, striker, both white men, and natives of the State of Tennessee. We are not familiarly acquainted with the condition of the public shop, as we live some distance from it; but, from the best information we can get from the superintendents and the citizens generally, we think he has given great room for general dissatisfaction over the district, in various ways: 1st. In the location of the shop; 2d. In doing the work badly, and sometimes not attending to their work at all. We refer you to the superintendents for further information.

Your fourth question, relative to the different denominations of religion, we are sorrow to say we cannot fully report on, owing to the stubbornness of some of the full-blood Cherokee preachers in giving their church members in to us; but we give you the report of all we can.

The Episcopal Methodist church, on Spring creek, numbers 3 native

preachers, 6 exhorters, native, and 47 regular members—12 males, and 35 females.

The Baptist church, on Saline creek, numbers 12 native preachers, and 147 regular church members. Of this church we cannot get the number of males and females.

There have been four capital convictions in this district; two Creek Indians, one Cherokee, and a white man—three of whom were executed, and one reprieved. There have been convictions and executions for theft.

There are also in this district 8 private blacksmith shops, situated in different parts of the district; 1 wagon-maker shop, and 1 cooper shop.

There are four salines in this district, three of which are in successful operation.

BRICE MARTIN,
S. W. BELL,
C. V. McNAIR.

To P. M. BUTLER.

No. 64.

The United Brethren, commonly called Moravians, have in Going Snake district, Cherokee nation, one missionary station; there located one missionary, Gilbert Bishop, aged 28 years, native of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Margaret L. Bishop, aged 22 years, of Dover, New Jersey.

In connexion, as full and communicant members of the church, living in the district, are, adult males 9 persons; adult females 12—total 21. A neighborhood day school is in operation, taught by the missionary, numbering boys 10; girls 4—total 14. Scholars residing in five families.

No. 65.

September 26, 1845.

DEAR SIR: In compliance with your request, I present the following as the report of the school under my care at Little river, Talapee town, Creek nation, and also of the missionary enterprise and temperance cause.

The school was commenced on the 6th day of January, 1845, and was closed on the 19th of September, making about 8½ months.

The whole number of scholars taught at the school is 32; but the average is not more than 15. This was an entirely new place, where the people were wholly destitute of the preaching of the gospel, and of schools, with the exception of a small school taught by a Swiss a few months last year, who, not properly understanding the English language, unhappily taught the children an erroneous pronunciation, more difficult to correct, than to take them from the alphabet at first. I found it necessary for the most forward of them to commence at words of three letters, in order to correct their erroneous pronunciation, and the remainder commenced at the alphabet, and their progress was rapid.

Those of the first class read through the spelling lessons in the "elementary spelling book," and through part of the reading lessons; then

they commenced the New Testament, read through Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, as far as the IXth chapter.

They have also commenced writing, and *now* can write a fair, legible hand.

One boy, probably 16 or 17 years of age, who spoke very broken English, had imbibed the greatest errors in pronunciation; did not know one figure from another; can now speak the language intelligibly, is a good speller, can read tolerably well in the New Testament, writes a very good hand, better than some teachers, and has ciphered as far as "division."

One girl, probably about 12 years of age, commenced at the alphabet, took a long drilling there, advanced very rapidly, so that she was put into the Testament class; then commenced writing, and now can read tolerably correctly in the Testament, and write a fair hand, especially coarse hand.

And one little boy about 5 or 6 years old, who in June did not know his letters, can now read distinctly and pronounce correctly the long words in number 105, commencing with the word ambiguity. They have also been instructed in the different sounds of the vowels, so that when they are asked what sound the accented syllable of a word has, whether long, short, flat or broad, they can readily give the answer, and apply the rule in the "key."

Three who commenced in the alphabet have made considerable advancement in writing as well as in spelling and reading. One of the Testament readers and writers has removed out of the bounds of the school, leaving but 7 in the class.

There are 10 writers, 8 males and 2 females, all of whom have progressed finely; and it is no more than doing the parents and children justice to say, that it has been one of the most interesting, orderly, and peaceable schools that I have ever taught, either in the Cherokee nation or in the State of New York. A considerable proportion of the children are half breeds, and can talk some English; but their common talk among themselves is Creek.

And that is not all. The first Sabbath after commencing my school, which was the second in the month, I established a very interesting Sunday school, which has been in successful operation from that time till the third Sabbath in September, when I had my last one, with the exception of three Sundays, two of which I was gone from the place, and one it was so very rainy that nobody attended but myself, making thirty-four Sabbaths that I had Sunday school; which has not only had the tendency to advance the children in learning, but also in a great degree has had the good effect to keep them from spending the Holy Sabbath in idleness and wickedness. The whole number of Sunday school scholars is 51, 26 males and 25 females, but probably the average number is about 20—some of whom are children of color—all conducted themselves with great propriety. It is true we have had some opposition from without. The persecuting Creeks have opposed their people in attending the preaching of the gospel; and from good authority I have been informed they have threatened that if they attended my meetings they should have fifty lashes upon their bare backs; and for the second offence, especially if they became religious, they should have fifty lashes and one ear cut off; and in fact some of them have talked about cutting my ears off. But I was determined to preach if they did cut off my ears and head too.

Notwithstanding their opposition I went straight ahead—established and continued my four meetings a week in two places, in addition to my week-day and sunday schools. Sometimes I have crossed Little river in a small tottering canoe—sometimes on a horse; and when neither was to be had, I have shouldered my saddle-bags of Sunday school books, walked two miles and waded the river to attend the Sunday school and my first appointment, rather than have either fail; and after meeting walked back again and attended my second appointment at night. On Wednesday evenings, after school, also, I have walked over to attend my appointment; then early next morning, before the sun was up, recrossed the river, took my back track, and returned to my boarding place, to get my breakfast, and go on with my little charge. Then on Thursday night I had meeting at my school room.

A second source of opposition I have had, which it is not necessary here to mention.

A third source, which has greatly retarded the progress of the gospel, is the flood of iniquity which is brought up the river in steamboats and canoes, and rolls through the nation on wheels—that scourge and curse of the nation called *whiskey*, which has flooded the land and destroyed the lives of many of her valuable citizens. Oh! my dear sir, if something could be done to turn this desolating flood back again, drive it from the country, and close the floodgates against it to keep it back, this would soon be a happy people.

But, notwithstanding all the embarrassments under which I have labored, I am happy to tell you, and all the friends of the missionary and temperance cause, that my labor has not been in vain; the Lord has wonderfully preserved my life and health, and has blessed my poor unworthy labors to this people; so that I have been enabled to raise a society, consisting of 20 church members; a temperance society of 27 members, 16 males and 11 females; and $20 for the purpose of building a house of Divine worship, where we may have our Sunday schools and meetings as well as other schools. The house is to be built as soon as a workman can be had, so as to be ready for use after conference. I do not tell you these things because I wish to sound a trumpet before men, as the hypocrites and pharisees do, but because they are the truth, and no lie; and the truth can hurt no man. Last Sunday morning I had my last Sunday school, and my last meeting at night. On Monday morning I took my leave of my little charge, and the date of this report finds me in the wilderness on the western bank of the Arkansas, on my way to conference. I am happy to tell you that my health has been remarkably good the whole of the year, for which I return my grateful acknowledgments to the great Ruler of the universe. The opposition now has greatly died away. A strange gentleman, Col. G. C. Matlock, very generously gave us $10 for our house of worship, to whom I tender my grateful thanks, hoping the Lord will reward him a hundred fold in this world, and in the world to come with life everlasting.

All which is most respectfully submitted by your sincere friend and humble servant,

JAMES ESSEX,
Teacher and Missionary of the M. E. Church.

Col. JAMES LOGAN,
Creek Agent.

No. 66.

CREEK MISSION, *September* 18, 1845.

DEAR SIR: By your request, I have the honor of sending you a report from the Creek mission, under the care of the Methodist board of missions.

Owing to the abiding opposition to the Gospel in this nation during a period of years past, there has been no regular Methodist missionary during that period; consequently no report has been made: yet, during that time, the nation has been visited by them, and a church formed; but it is not known, at present, whether our missionaries will be allowed to continue their operations or not, owing to the continued opposition by the chiefs. By request, Rev. Thomas Bertholf and myself came to this nation in the fall of 1842, for the purpose of organizing a church, which thing we did in December of the same year. After holding several very interesting meetings, we appointed and held a quarterly conference, where Peter Harrison, Cornelius Perryman, and Samuel Che to-ty were duly appointed and set apart as local preachers in the Methodist Episcopal church; others were licensed to exhort, and to aid on in that way. Missionaries have frequently visited them, and administered the ordinances of the said church. Mostly the work has been left to the local preachers and exhorters, (native men,) and I think they have done the best they could. Our church has been ready and willing to do all that she could for this nation. A faithful missionary has been appointed for three years in succession, to labor among them to no purpose. Owing to the existing laws and opposition, he was not able to take charge of his work. Native men were employed during the time to travel and preach, and the board paid them a salary; and through their labors many were added to the church of Christ. One of them, D. B. Aspberry, is now travelling with me as my interpreter. I was appointed, and came to this mission in April last, and have found it an interesting field of labor, although it is one of trials and care. Could the religion of Christ be free in this nation, I know of no missionary ground more inviting than the Creek nation. But, oh! the trials Christians have to meet with in this nation. It is too much to be tolerated in happy America. They are driven from home; tied up and whipt like slaves, for no other reason than that they worship God. The Christian Indians are quiet and orderly; they delight in meeting together; sing and pray; and it would melt a heart of stone, it seems, to witness their singing and prayer. We have a book of hymns nearly ready for the press, in their own language. There are some already in use among them. We have societies in different parts of the nation; and, as a general thing, the church members are doing well, and seem determined to serve the Lord at all hazards. We have three local preachers, sixteen exhorters, and three hundred and seventy-five church members. Others have proposed to join the first opportunity. We have two campmeetings to hold this fall yet.

It is a cause of rejoicing to see so many of our red brethren turning from their vain and superstitious ways to the living God. I long to see this nation a Christian nation—when her children shall be the children of the Highest. For this, I am willing to spend my life. As I said before, this is ripe field for missionary operations, provided the right of *conscience* can be allowed in the nation. I believe the Creek people would be a religious people if religion could be tolerated, and missionaries were able to devote their energies to the welfare of this people. A great portion of the chiefs

are opposed to religion, thinking it will lessen their influence, and have a tendency to do away their old *customs* and festivals. Believing this, they unite their influence against the Christian religion; and what they cannot think of to bring against it, they have some of the *pale faces* ready at their hand (who, perhaps, have left Christian parents) to aid them in warring against this holy religion. I am happy to say that many of the leading and most intelligent chiefs are friendly to the gospel, and are willing to do all in their power to introduce religion in the nation. They have opened their houses for preaching, and encourage their people to attend Divine worship. We have no schools under our care, as yet, in the nation. We purpose, as soon as convenient, to establish one or more in this nation. There is a great desire on the part of the people for schools. They want their children taught to read the Word of God, and do their own business, which would be a very desirable thing, indeed. As far as I have learned, the people want manual labor schools, and I do not know whether any other plan could be adopted that would give so general satisfaction as schools of the above order. Still they desire to have as many of their district schools to go into operation as possible. I had the pleasure of visiting Mr. William Whitfield's school at Spring hill, and I must say that I was highly pleased with the said school. He has some 30 odd children under his care, and they appear to be advancing rapidly in their studies. I believe he is eminently qualified for the task before him, and he enjoys the confidence of his patrons. I am pleased to know that he proposes to take up and teach a Sabbath school, which, I trust, will be a blessing to the neighborhood.

The temperance cause, I trust, will yet be a great blessing to this people. This year some 160 have signed the pledge. The cause has many warm and devoted friends in this nation; and may God speed on the good cause until this nation shall become a temperance nation.

I must close this hasty report by saying, I am much obliged to you for your many favors. Your house has been opened for the preaching of the gospel, and your table has been spread for the faithful missionaries, and their wants have been supplied. Your beds have been prepared for their repose. May God bless you and yours for your kindness and attention to our wants.

I am your obedient servant,

W. D. COLLINS, *P. C.*,
Creek Mission.

JAMES LOGAN, Esq.,
Creek Agent.

No. 67.

CREEK MISSION,
Indian Territory, August 13, 1845.

DEAR SIR: Having learned that it is the desire of the Department of Indian Affairs to receive annually a report from all the missionaries living in the Indian country, with pleasure I comply, and now write to inform you of the progress of our school among the Creeks, established by the Presbyterian Board of foreign missions.

On the 26th June, 1843, Mrs. Loughridge commenced teaching a day school at the mission, which was kept up about three months, when, owing to sickness in the mission family, and also among the children of the school, it was suspended for a season.

On the 13th of May following, having erected a large and comfortable building, the school was recommenced, and continued about four months, when the sickly season again set in and put a stop to our proceedings.

About the 15th of October last, the school was re-opened by Mrs. Loughridge, who taught until the 30th of December, when we were joined by the Rev. John Limber, who then took charge of the school for the remainder of the session, which closed on the 18th of July. Considering the many obstacles we have had to encounter in ill health, the want of books and buildings, the progress of the children has been very encouraging. During the first three months, about nineteen attended school, some of whom were very irregular. All, with the exception of one, commenced with the alphabet, and understood nothing of the English language. Their improvement, however, was very rapid; equal, I think, to what is generally seen among the whites; so that now, those of them who have been at all regular in their attendance, can read very well in the New Testament, or in McGuffy's second reader, write a pretty fair hand, and have made some advances in mental arithmetic. Others, who commenced later, were further advanced.

The following is an account of the studies pursued during the last month, which is a pretty fair specimen of the greater part of the last session: 6 in spelling only; 17 in spelling and reading; 12 in writing; 15 in mental arithmetic; 5 in mental and practical arithmetic; 7 in geography.

The scholars in actual attendance at the close of the session were *twenty-two*. During the session, *thirty-five* different scholars attended all or a part of the time.

Feeling that a manual labor boarding school is the only kind that will do much good among this people, it has been our constant aim to establish our school on that plan as soon as possible. Hence, as soon as our building was sufficiently completed, we took eight Indian children into our family, which number has been increased to *fourteen* during the present session. We hope to be able to take in about twenty boarders during the coming session.

Yours, very respectfully,

ROBERT M. LOUGHRIDGE.

Col. JAMES LOGAN,
Creek Agent.

No. 68.

CREEK MISSION, INDIAN TERRITORY,
September 8, 1845.

DEAR SIR: Having learned that it is the desire of the War Department to receive, annually, a report from missionaries conducting schools in the Indian country, I hasten to give you a brief sketch of our school among the Creeks established by the Presbyterian board of foreign missions.

The station is pleasantly situated about twenty miles from the agency, in a high, rolling country, about one mile from the Arkansas river and

half a mile from the prairie, and convenient to an abundance of good water.

A day school was commenced by Mrs. Loughridge at the mission, on the 26th June, 1843, and continued for about three months; but, owing to sickness among the children and for the want of suitable buildings, it was suspended for several months.

Having erected a large and comfortable hewn log house, the school was recommenced on the 13th May, 1844, under more pleasing circumstances, and continued about four months, when the sickly season set in, and rendered it necessary to suspend operations for several weeks.

After about a month's vacation, the school was reopened and continued to be taught by Mrs. L. until the 30th December, when we were joined by the Rev. John Limber, who took charge of the school for the remainder of the session, which closed on the 18th of last July.

Considering the many obstacles we have had to encounter in sickness, want of books, and buildings, the progress of the children has been very encouraging.

During the first three months of the school, about nineteen children attended, some of whom were, however, very irregular. All, with the exception of one, commenced in the alphabet, and understood nothing whatever of the English language.

Their improvement has been very rapid; equal, I think, to what is generally seen elsewhere; so that *now*, those of them who have been at all regular in their attendance, can read very well in the New Testament, or McGuffy's second reader, write a pretty fair hand, and have made some advances in the mental arithmetic.

During the session, thirty different scholars attended all or a part of the time. The following is an account of studies pursued during the last month, which is a pretty fair specimen of the greater part of last session: in spelling, six; spelling and reading, seventeen; writing, twelve; mental arithmetic, fifteen; mental and practical, five; geography, seven.

The scholars in actual attendance at the close of the session were twenty two.

Being convinced that a manual labor boarding-school is the only kind that will do much good among this people, it has been our constant intention to establish our school on that plan as soon as possible. Hence, as soon as one building was sufficiently completed to be occupied, we took eight Indian children into our family; which number was increased to fourteen during the last session.

Many of the Creeks manifest much anxiety about the education of their children; and some have offered to pay us, if we would receive their children into our school, and board them in our family.

We hope to be able to receive a much larger number of children into our school during the coming session; and we hope the time is not far distant when the blessings of education will be in the reach of every one in the land.

Yours, most respectfully,

ROBERT M. LOUGHRIDGE,

Missionary.

COL. JAMES LOGAN,

Agent for the Creeks.

No. 69.

IOWA AND SAC MISSION,
September 30, 1845.

MY DEAR SIR: Already is the time again upon us when it is necessary, in compliance with given instructions, to submit to you a report of the general condition of affairs at our mission.

The absorbing business during the past summer has been the erection of suitable buildings for a manual labor boarding-school. The main building for the school was under roof on the 21st instant, and is now in progress of being finished. It is 106 feet long by 37 feet wide, three stories high. The first or basement story is of limestone, the two upper stories of brick, and the roof of good pine. Dressed lumber, for most of the floors; sash and blinds for the windows, and well-made doors, are in readiness to finish the building—having been brought from Pittsburg last spring. Glass, nails, and paints are also on hand to complete the house, as well as a large quantity of bedding, clothing, and kitchen furniture to commence the school. But a want of the necessary funds to go on, has compelled us to surrender the hope of being able to complete the building and commence the school this fall. But we hope to be able to do so early in the coming summer. A mill also, propelled by horse-power, and out-houses, are also in progress.

Owing to the time and attention requisite for the management of these improvements, the other branches of our missionary labor have not received that attention we could have wished, and perhaps which its importance demanded. The printing press has been idle since last spring. Teaching at the village, as in former seasons, has also been suspended—having it only in our power to impart oral instruction to the Indians as occasions and opportunity might offer.

Early in the spring, the family of the Rev. Wm. Hamilton, long a laborer at this place, left the station, on account of ill-health, and went to their native region in Pennsylvania. On the first of August, he too left the station to join them, and whether he returns to the station or not is not yet determined.

The Rev. S. M. Coon and wife have joined us here with a view mainly of commencing missionary labor among the Ottoes on the Great Platte river; but the plan for that mission not being yet matured, he will for the present, if not permanently, remain here.

As to the real condition of the Indians, it is useless perhaps for me to say any thing, as with this you are painfully familiar. It would seem at first sight that in a short time past they have grown much worse; for with the single exception of drinking whiskey (which arises more from pecuniary want than moral restraint) they have grown extravagant in all sorts of mischief—stealing, killing cattle, and the like, have, within the last few months, grown much more common. This arises mainly, I suppose, from two causes: 1st. The vagrant band of Iowas, who broke off about eight years ago, and have since lived mainly by theft and hunting on strange ground, joined these last spring, and their influence has been decidedly pernicious. 2d. The recent removal of the agent has evidently had a bad effect. His efficient and judicious course had thrown around them a strong restraint; but since his removal, they feel completely unbridled, and are bold to exercise their supposed freedom. It is indeed a thousand pities that so many interests, vital to the peace and prosperity of these nations, should be sacri-

ficed to party spirit. But it is hoped the coming agent will be a man "fearing God and hating covetousness," pursuing that course which will be most salutary; but it will require years to regain the ground that is lost. But I cannot now write more; severe affliction in my own family and among all the members of the mission has compelled me to put off this report to the latest hour; and it is now only by taking time which should be given to sleep that I can write even this. We have had more sickness at the mission this fall than in all the eight years' history of the mission past. But it is all for the best.

May health, peace, and prosperity be yours, and as you return from the toilsome and thankless services of your office, we doubt not that "a conscience void of offence" will accompany you; and be assured, our humble prayers will follow you, while a recollection of your friendship and courtesy, and that of your family, will be long and fondly cherished in the bosoms of your missionary friends at this station.

Your friend and humble servant, in behalf of the missicn,

S. M. IRVIN.

W. P. RICHARDSON, Esq.,
Great Nehama Sub-agency, Missouri.

No. 70.

SUGAR CREEK, CATHOLIC MISSION,
September 12, 1845.

RESPECTED SIR: When I duly consider the prosperous and happy condition of this Pottawatomie tribe under your superintendence, I candidly avow that these Indians owe you a debt of gratitude, which, in my opinion, they never can sufficiently acknowledge. If we take a view of their present and past circumstances, where is the unbiassed man that has witnessed your transactions here among us, that will not openly declare that the most happy results have accrued from your visits to this nation? Therefore, as you have heretofore exhibited, by all your transactions, such deep interest in the promotion of the state and condition of the aborigines under your fostering care, I feel happy to inform you, by this annual report, of the prosperous condition of the schools here carried on under my charge. As you are well conversant with both our schools, I will briefly state, that though the number of pupils here educated be not as much on the increase, still the accompanying schedules, showing the names, ages, and different branches taught to each individual, and his proficiency in them, will convince you that there is a decided improvement, and that our scholars are steady and perseverant. Many of them will be found to be the same that frequented our schools the foregoing year, and the constancy of these has been crowned with as much success as could be expected; some, it is true, (generally those that are more advanced in years,) have ceased coming; others have absented themselves from time to time; but it must be remarked, that they were absent mostly to follow their parents to their sugar camps, or to assist them in agricultural pursuits, in which this tribe advance rapidly, as they visibly improve in every respect of civilization. The average number of those that do no longer attend the schools has been supplied by new scholars; who, as they are for the greater part younger, are more disposed to acquire the English

language to some degree of perfection. Since we have reasons to be satisfied with our success, we continue constantly to pursue, in conducting our schools, the same plan that we have adopted from the beginning. The boys have daily English class; from 9 o'clock till noon they are taught spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, and the knowledge of the English grammar is occasionally imparted to the more advanced ones; after dinner they are instructed both in the before named branches and in the Pottawatomie language.

With regard to the female establishment, nothing has been left undone to ensure a permanent success in an undertaking, the fruits of which are of so pleasing prospect; for who does not know that the progress of civilization and the welfare of a rising nation greatly depend upon the female members of society; for it is them chiefly, who are to instil the first principles of virtue and morals, form their characters, and, if I may say so, to raise either a good or bad, a happy or unfortunate generation; the girls, therefore, are trained up to all the useful attainments that are requisite or desirable in social life. Besides reading, spelling, writing, ciphering, &c., they are also taught carding, spinning, knitting, sewing, marking, embroidering, yea, even the refined accomplishments of the more improved societies, such as fancy work and artificial flower making; nor is this all, between school hours they are, by the way of taking exercise, so necessary to preserve health, engaged in manual labor, as sweeping, churning, baking and the like occupations of domestic economy. Being thus educated under the careful guidance of four religious ladies, who devote all their attention to the mental and moral improvement of their pupils, the scholars have not only made progress in learning, but have even become industrious to a point that is no less surprising than beneficial to this nation; though but children as yet, they have made in school alone, during the course of the past school year, more than 200 pieces of dress of different kinds, such as shirts, pantaloons, coats, &c., so that even from now, they contribute efficaciously to draw their fellow red brethren from savage customs of the man of the forest to the civilized habits of the white man. I think it needless to add any more to show that these schools must necessarily prove highly beneficial towards the improvement of the nation, wherefore I conclude by declaring, that though our scholars are almost all full blooded Indian youths, amounting to 141 in number, of whom 77 may be called regular, their progress, steadiness, and good behavior give us reason to cherish the most sanguine hopes that they will before long, under your fatherly care, together with the untiring and impartial solicitude, the constant vigilance, and the single eye of our worthy sub-agent, Colonel Vaughan, to mete out justice to one, not at the exclusion of another, constitute that sort of society which is so much desired.

With very great respect, your very obedient servant,

T. F. L. VERREYDT.

HON. THOMAS H. HARVEY,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Missouri.

No. 71.

Friends' Shawnee School for Indian Youth.

RESPECTED FRIEND: Having neglected to forward our report for last year, permit us to say that our school was regularly kept up with an average number of 40 pupils of both sexes.

In the course of the year 20 children were received who had never been at school before; 17 left and returned to their parents, several of whom can read, write, and cipher sufficient for common purposes.

The progress of the children in school learning and general deportment was similar to that of former years.

Through the winter of 1844–5 our school numbered 50 of both sexes, 19 of whom read, write, cipher, and study geography. The remaining 31 read and spell. The evenings were devoted to the practice of geography on the repetition system. The children were much pleased with it, and advanced faster than was anticipated.

We are of the opinion that it will prove for the future advancement of the Indian youth in civilization for them to devote a greater portion of their time at school to manual labor, than has in years past been practised at this institution.

At the return of spring all the boys who were large enough to work were taken out of school to labor on the farm, and have been employed in divers kinds of work most of the time since.

The large girls, in addition to their regular work of sewing, knitting, washing, milking, &c., have been instructed in spinning wool, and as soon as practicable we purpose learning them to weave. It has been gratifying to observe an increasing interest manifested by the pupils in the prosperity of things around them belonging to the establishment.

Our first day school has been kept up, but changed in its plan. The morning, before meeting for worship, is devoted to committing and reciting scripture passages. The afternoon to private reading; that is, each child who can read has access to a library furnished for that purpose, mostly scripture history and the memoirs of pious youth. The school closes by answering scripture questions.

In addition to their other opportunities of receiving religious instruction, either the superintendents or teachers devote a portion of time most evenings at their lodging rooms as they retire to rest, in reading the dying sayings of pious persons, and we feel assured that such opportunities with them have been beneficial, being owned by the presence of the Good Spirit who visits all mankind in their young and tender years, and inclines their hearts to serve him in the days of their youth. At times they are tender and broken in spirit, and their hearts seem to be panting after the waters of life. When thus visited, the time set apart for this work seems too short to them; when it is announced that it is time to close the opportunity, they have exclaimed with one accord, "Let us have one more, the last was so good." We have thought at seasons like this, surely this is a foretaste of the happiness which is to be experienced in the company of angels and purified spirits in the realms of bliss.

There appears to be an increasing interest felt by the parents and friends of the children to attend our religious meetings; and unworthy as we are, at times we are permitted to take sweet counsel together, and be the sensible partakers of the benefits of Christ's death and sufferings, through the

immediate teachings of his holy spirit, who brings past things to our remembrance and opens the heart to receive instruction from the contents of the Bible.

In consequence of the failure of our crops, the expenses of carrying on this work have been much increased the present year, and yet, through a kind Providence, we have not only met our own demands, but expended $469 in corn and other provisions for the destitute Indians around us, including the expenses attending the purchase and delivery of the same.

Signed in behalf of the institution, 9th month 14, 1845.

THOMAS WELLS, } *Superintendents.*
HANNAH WELLS, }
ZERI HOUGH, } *Teachers.*
MIRIAM H. HOUGH, }

ROBERT W. CUMMINS.

No. 72.

OTTOWA MISSION, *September* 18, 1845.

DEAR SIR: Yours of the 9th instant was received on the 10th, but, being confined to a bed of sickness, I was unable to attend to your request; and even now I am able to sit up only a part of my time—feel entirely unable to make the report you wish.

We have not kept any regular day school for some five years past, but have kept up a winter evening school, at which time we instruct men, women, and children in reading, writing, and arithmetic. Those who understand, or have a prospect of understanding the English language, we of course teach English. Those who do not, we teach to read, write, and cipher in Ottowa. From eighty to a hundred have been thus taught, besides eighteen whom we have induced to join the manual labor institutions among the Shawnees. We, however, furnish the Indians, at all times, with books and stationery, which they use at their homes.

Previous to our commencing operations among them, which was in 1837, they were *all* very dissipated, indolent, and destitute of any moral or intellectual culture. They were strongly opposed to religious instruction, schools, and to adopting civilized habits. Now fifty of them have become hopefully pious. At least one-half of the nation are strictly temperate; and, as a nation, they are fast adopting the dress, customs, opinions, and pursuits of the whites. In June, 1844, the flood carried off all of their old corn, new fields and crops, nearly all of their houses, and much of their stock.

The government donation, of seven hundred and sixty bushels of corn, enabled them to build houses on the highland, and to remake their fields in the bottom, expecting, by the next year, to have farms opened in the prairie; but in June of the present year, about three-fourths of their crops were carried off by another freshet. Having no hopes of obtaining help from any source, the majority of the nation are preparing to start out to spend the winter on distant hunting grounds. Still, they have formed a plan among themselves, by which they are to keep two ploughs running, hoping that

each may have a prairie field ready for planting of at least six acres, by planting time.

Most affectionately, I am, dear sir, yours, &c.

JOTHAM MEEKER.

COLONEL A. J. VAUGHAN,
Indian Sub-agent, Osage river Sub-agency.

No. 73.

POTTAWATOMIE BAPTIST MISSION STATION,
September 18, 1845.

SIR: I beg leave to submit the following as the annual report of the school with which I am connected, viz:

This mission is under the patronage of the Board of the American Indian Mission Association, located at Louisville, Kentucky, a body but recently organised, and though it enlists the sympathies and warm support of its numerous friends and patrons in the Mississippi valley and southern States, it has not yet been enabled to attempt for these people so much as we desire to see done for them.

In my instructions I was directed to repair to this place, and for the present, preparatory to the establishment of a manual labor school, to teach as many day scholars as I could collect, or induce to attend from their homes. I accordingly, on the 7th of last November, commenced a small day school taught in English. The whole number enrolled, and who have attended up to this time, is twenty; fifteen boys between the ages of seven and eighteen, and five girls between the ages of eight and sixteen. Of the whole number eleven read and write, the balance spell more or less.

A portion have attended with some regularity, others irregularly. It is due that I should say, in regard to some more advanced, that they had attended other schools previous to the commencement of this. Their progress has been somewhat gratifying, and could a strictly regular attendance be secured, their improvement in the knowledge of letters, judging from the past, would be rapid.

As an inducement to better attendance on the school, one meal a day part of the time, and some clothing, have been furnished the destitute, but no boarding scholars have as yet been taken into the family.

Whenever the board shall feel prepared to advance in the measures of a boarding school on a scale adapted to the wants of the tribe, it appears to me that much good may be done, and the condition of these Indians rapidly improved.

It is the hallowed influence of home, in connexion with religious and literary instruction, with a knowledge of the domestic arts, which are required to materially change the character of the Indians. Let the youth be brought under the guidance, and made permanent members of mission families, and they will grow up as do our children, integral portions of civilized society. To educate at distant places, or make mere scholars in letters of these hapless children of the forest, would be but to multiply evidences of misdirected efforts in their behalf. And, withal, these Indians are extremely anxious their education funds should be applied at home,

where they could profit by all the advantages of an institution of learning, as well as an exemplar of civilization.

There are connected with this station beside myself, but who derive no support from the Mission Board, Dr. J. Lykins, and Mr. and Mrs. Somerwell. It is also my duty to state, that, besides many interruptions in the prosecution of my labors as teacher, incident to the commencement of a mission, the prevailing sickness has for a number of weeks precluded the possibility of keeping up the school. All, both young and old, of the mission family have suffered severely. At present I am suffering from a protracted fever, and in making this imperfect report have to avail myself of the aid of another.

Respectfully,

E. McCOY.

Hon. A. J. VAUGHAN,
United States Indian Sub-agent.

No. 74.

PEORIA, *September* 15, 1845.

DEAR SIR: Not having received yours of the 9th inst. until to-day, we hasten to furnish you with our report.

In this charge are included Chippewas, Peorias, Weas, Piankeshaws, and Pottowatomies; our labors extending to all the above named tribes.

1. *Chippewas.* It has not been quite two years since they received the gospel amongst them. They are in an improving condition, both temporally and morally. They have suffered much the two past years from the almost total loss of their crops by the high waters.

2. The *Peorias.* There is but little apparent improvement now among these people in any respect. They are fast wasting away as a tribe. We once had a flourishing society here; but alas! the most of its members are no more. They are dying every year, at the rapid rate of 10 or 12 per cent. They now receive no annuity, and are very needy. In their temporal affairs they have much declined; the houses once occupied are now uninhabited, and fields which but a few years since were well cultivated are lying waste.

3. The *Weas* and *Piankeshaws.* As a tribe they are not improving much. We have been laboring amongst them several years; a number of them have listened to the gospel, and are now orderly walking christians. These have made considerable improvement in their temporal affairs —raising horses, cattle, and hogs, with a tolerably good supply of corn.

4. The *Pottawatomies.* Here we have had a mission established a few years, but comparatively little has been done, owing principally, perhaps, to the repeated afflictions and removals of the missionaries. However, we have a small society here which will well compare with any other for morals and industry. That portion of this tribe with which we have been laboring, have been and are still much addicted to drunkenness. Notwithstanding the repeated efforts of their agent to prevent it, they have turned the good and charitable intentions of the government into this channel.

5. As to schools, there are none now kept up under our direction among

these tribes, it being our policy to send all the children we can obtain to the Indian manual labor school. A considerable number from this charge are now there; their improvement is very respectable.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.

THOMAS HURLBERT,
THOMAS B. RUBLE.

Colonel A. J. VAUGHAN,
Indian Sub-agent.

No. 75.

WEA BAPTIST MISSION STATION,
September 18, 1845.

SIR: The Mission station, with which I am connected, is located about seven miles north of the Osage river, and 14 miles west of the State line of Missouri, among the Wea, Piankeshaw, and Kaskaskia bands of Indians.

The mission is established by the American Indian Mission Association, the board of which is located at Louisville, Kentucky, and the design of the board is to extend the present effort at as early a day as practicable to a manual labor school of "respectable magnitude."

There is at present connected with the station, the undersigned and wife, and Miss Sarah A. Osgood.

On the 18th December, the school was commenced by receiving into the mission family a few boarding scholars, and imparting to them instruction in letters, morals, religion, and domestic arts. The school in this shape was kept up regularly, until during the month of August it was enlarged to seventeen scholars. Of these, 12 are boys between the ages of six and fifteen, and five girls between the ages of six and thirteen. Of the scholars, four read well, the balance are in all the various stages, from the alphabet to easy reading. Besides these permanent scholars, a few day scholars attend, receiving dinner and some clothing, but lodge at home.

The pupils are instructed in the various branches of domestic art and manual labor appropriate to their sex. Their progress so far, and deportment, have been highly encouraging.

I have to state, however, that severe affliction, from autumnal fevers, has compelled us to suspend the operations of the station. Every member of the mission family has been sick.

So soon as returning health shall permit, the operations of the mission will be resumed, and the design is to further enlarge the school as rapidly as accommodations can be secured for the reception and comfort of the pupils.

It affords me great pleasure to state that these Indians manifest a most laudable anxiety to avail themselves of the benefits of the institution; such has been their desire to press their children in, that the mission has felt great embarrassment in putting them off. In their desires for the improvement of their children, and their own advancement in agriculture, religion, and the arts of civilized life, these Indians are second to none in the Indian territory; and, in saying this, I am happy to know that you have yourself witnessed the same, and encouraged in them this happy disposition by well-timed and excellent advice.

Justice seems to require me also to say that Baptiste Peoria, a respectable and intelligent half breed, has, by his advice, contributed much to the existence of this commendable feeling among his people. Possessing unbounded influence among them, and feeling deeply anxious for their elevation, he promotes by all possible means a spirit of improvement. It is pleasant to make honorable mention of such praiseworthy conduct.

The mission property consists of 1 dwelling for the mission family, 34 feet long, by 18 wide, 1½ stories high, divided into 4 rooms, 2 stone chimneys, comfortably furnished off; 1 cook-house, 17 by 18, stone chimney, and one story high, and connected with the dwelling by a passage; 1 dining room now erecting, and school room unfinished; 1 field of 20 acres, only partly ploughed or enclosed.

Our extreme afflictions, and consequent interruption of our labors, have prevented our requesting of you the favor of personally inspecting the school and premises.

With the blessing of God, the fostering care of the United States Government, and the necessary means of prosecuting our labors, we have sanguine hopes of doing these people great good.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. M. ADAMS.

Col. A. J. VAUGHAN,
United States Indian Sub-agent.

No. 76.

MOHEGAN STATION, *September* 30, 1845.

DEAR SIR: On the closing up with another term of our school, I would beg leave to say, that, through the continued mercy of our Heavenly Father, we have been prospered through another year; have had but little sickness among us yet, and we have buried one of the little Indian girls, who was a member of the school. The number of children who have been taught, belonging to the tribe, are eighteen—eight males, and ten females; they have been faithfully instructed in the various branches of English studies between nine and ten months. Their proficiency in improvement will not fall behind any of our common schools in the vicinity. These children have also enjoyed the advantages of a Sabbath school; and they and their parents and friends have been instructed on the Sabbath in those sacred things which relate to their spiritual welfare beyond the grave. And I think I can, with propriety and safety, say that they have improved in science and morals. There is a general spirit of enterprise among them. The last winter, for the first time, our society employed a teacher in music, as many of our native youth have good ears and taste for sacred music. They have made good proficiency in this pleasing art. One of our young Indian men leads our singing in church, and gives good satisfaction. I don't know of any year since I have resided among them, when there has been so much disposition to industry, according to their numbers, as the past; and yet there are a few cases who occasionally drink to intoxication, who have, for a long time, been habituated to the pernicious habit. But there are a goodly number who are members of the total abstinence society, and some who were formerly intemperate. Two native men have died the

past year. Some of our native members of the church would be ornaments to any church in christendom. And he hopes, by continuing to receive the patronage of the general government, that we shall, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, be enabled to train quite a number of them up, not only to usefulness and respectability here, but, also, for a future residence in the kingdom of glory.

With ever praying for the prosperity of our country, and the welfare of the Indians, I remain your humble servant,

ANSON GLEASON,
Teacher of the Mohegan school.

DANIEL L. TRUMBULL, Esq.,
United States Agent for Mohegan school.

No. 77.

TONAWANDA MISSION STATION,
September 30, 1845.

SIR: The time has arrived for the annual report of this school and station to be made to you. The school has been sustained during the year, averaging about thirty scholars; it being not as large as usual, on the account of our deeming it not best to receive any new scholars this year, for this reason: we expect the Indians will be obliged to leave Tonawanda next spring, and we could not benefit them much for one year. They are all (in Tonawanda) still opposed to removing, and appear to think that the treaty will still be broken up. Their minds are very much agitated upon the subject; and, as a consequence, they have made no calculations where to go if obliged to leave, and are not prepared to receive any advice or instructions upon the subject. I wish you to write me on the receipt of this, and inform me whether there is any prospect of the treaty being broken up, or of their remaining here any longer than spring, as it is important that we should know, that we may make calculations accordingly. Public worship has been sustained during the year. The temperance cause is on the increase, and they are advancing in civilization and in cultivating their lands, manners, and habits.

Yours with respect,

AUGUSTUS WARREN,
Superintendent.

T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD, Esq.,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 78.

Report showing the condition of the Choctaw Academy in Kentucky, for the quarter commencing with the 1st day of July, and ending on the 30th day of September, 1845.

The undersigned has the honor to report that the number of Indian youths now at this academy is 69. They are distinguished under the following heads: Pottawatomies, 20 students: under the treaty of Chicago, 16. Creeks, 12: under the treaty of Prairie du Chien, 1. Chickasaws, 14;

and Miamies, 6—making the total of 69. Of this number 6 Miamies, 5 Pottawatomies, and 8 Chickasaws, entered the academy during the quarter just ending; and 5 Pottawatomies and 7 Chickasaws have been sent to their respective homes. The tabular statement A., which is a part of this report, gives the English and Indian name of each student; their ages; the time they entered the academy; the tribes to which they belong, and a note of their progress in school.

There has been some sickness during the last month of the quarter, mostly from intermittent fever; out of six cases only one at this time remains, and the patient in this case will soon return to his place in school. The season has been extremely sickly in the towns and neighborhoods only a few miles distant from us; our thanks are due to the great Disposer of events that so little has fallen to our share. We have encouraged frequent bathing, and drinking freely of the excellent white sulphur water near the academy. To these, and to the efficient police of the establishment, together with the salubrity of the site occupied, and its immediate neighborhood, we are chiefly indebted for the general good health among us throughout the past year.

Considerable progress has been made in advancing the Indian youths in their studies. Many at the beginning of the quarter could not speak or understand a word in our language; some of these can now spell and pronounce distinctly words in three and four syllables, and can now understand much that is spoken. The undersigned has tried many expedients to facilitate them in a knowledge of the English language, and flatters himself that he has succeeded to a considerable extent. Indeed, a manifest improvement was exhibited in all the classes during the close and strict examination of several days under the auspices of the inspector of the academy. The tabular statement marked B., which is also part of this report, will show the principal studies of each individual; those most advanced stand first on the list, and in that order throughout.

Most of the winter clothing is made and issued, and in a few days all will be furnished; it is made of substantial materials, neatly made, and comfortable. A large proportion of the beds and bed clothing is new, and of the most suitable kind for winter. The rooms occupied by the students are in excellent repair, and comfortably furnished. Their boarding is equal to that had at any of the tables of our farmers, having every variety of meats and vegetables, and efficient cooks to prepare it.

At no period since the establishment of the institution has the general conduct of the students been better. Not the least disturbance to mar the harmony which prevails throughout has occurred. The undersigned hopes that his humble labors have not been lost in endeavoring to inculcate a knowledge of religion and its duties, as well as its principles of morality, to these interesting children of the red man of this continent. The prospect is good for their continuance in this path, which alone leads to true happiness.

The undersigned has been well supported by Mr. Gardner, the principal teacher, and by his assistants.

All of which is most respectfully submitted by

D. VANDERSLICE,
Superintendent Choctaw Academy.

T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington city.

Report of the inspector of the Choctaw Academy, Kentucky, showing the condition of the same at the close of the quarter commencing July the 1st, and ending September 30th, 1845—this being the annual examination, &c.

The subscriber takes pleasure in reporting the very prosperous condition of the Choctaw academy. Having visited the same, and for four days previous to the close of the quarter, strictly examined the Indian students in their respective classes, and heard them separately, he must confess that he was surprised at the vast improvement made by a majority of these children of the forest since his last report. The superintendent and preceptors seem to have exerted all their energies to advance their moral condition as well as their literary attainments; indeed, he is pleased to say that the school is altogether superior to what it was some years past, and bids fair to become one of the first scientific institutions of our land.

The untutored savage, snatched from his wigwam and brought into a land of civilization, not knowing how to speak the English language, it would hardly be expected that he would advance as rapidly as civilized boys; but, be assured, taking all these disadvantages into consideration, the advancement of the students of the Choctaw Academy has been equal to any school in our country.

He has inspected every department of the institution, and finds all in an improved condition. The students are comfortably clothed, their boarding good, and the buildings in sufficient repair. Several of the houses occupied by the students are new, and furnished with plain but suitable furniture and bedding; indeed, there is nothing worthy of complaint wanting; nor has any one of the students complained, although every opportunity has been given to listen to them. As the superintendent will give a detailed statement in his report, I refer you to it for all the particulars.

All of which is most respectfully submitted by

Your obedient servant,

WM. SUGGETT, *Inspector.*

Hon. WM. L. MARCY,
Secretary of War.

List of Indian schools, with their location, and the number of scholars and teachers; including, so far as reports have been received, all that receive allowances from education, annuity, or civilization funds.

Names of principals.	Tribes instructed.	Location.	Teachers.	SCHOLARS.			Denomination.	Remarks.
				Boys.	Girls.	Total.		
Michigan superintendency.								
Peter Marksman	Chippewas	Ance Quewewenon	1	12	9	21	Methodist.	
Bishop P. P. Lefever	Ottowas	Arbre Croché	3	35	41	76	Catholic.	
Do.	Do.	La Croix	2	30	26	56	Do.	
Do.	Do.	Middletown	1	17	10	27	Do.	
Do.	Do.	Maniste	1	10	12	22	Do.	
Do.	Do.	Grand river	1	8	9	17	Do.	
Do.	Do.	Mackinac	2	13	30	43	Do.	
Do.	Do.	Point St. Ignace	2	13	20	33	Do.	
Do.	Do.	Cheboigan	1	9	10	19	Do.	
Do.	Chippewas	Ance Quewewenon	2	23	28	51	Do.	
Rev. P. Dougherty	Do.	Grand Traverse bay	2	24	12	36	Presbyterian.	
Rev. George N. Smith	Ottowas	Old Wing	1	30	12	42	Am. Board Com. For. Mis.	
Rev. A. Bingham	Chippewas	Sault Ste. Marie	5	25	27	52	Baptist.	
Rev. L. Slater	Ottowas	Ottowa colony	1	13	17	30	Do.	
Rev. W. H. Brockway	Chippewas	Little Rapids	2	13	11	24	Methodist.	
Do.	Do.	Kewawenon	2	12	10	22	Do.	
Do.	Do.	Fond-du-Lac	2	–	–	–	Do.	
Do.	Do.	Sandy Lake	1	–	–	–	Do.	
Iowa superintendency.								
H. N. Thissel	Winnebagoes	Winnebago school	4	83	83	166		
Thomas S. Williamson	Sioux	Lac-que-parle	6	61	47	108	Am. Board Com. For. Mis.	
Stephen R. Riggs	Do.	Traverse de Sioux	4					

No. 79—Continued.

Names of principals.	Tribes instructed.	Location.	Teachers.	SCHOLARS. Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Denomination.	Remarks.
Wisconsin superintendency.								
Cutting Marsh	Stockbridges	Stockbridge	1	16	25	41	Am. Board Com. For. Mis.	
H. R. Coleman	Oneidas	Green bay	1	18	13	31	Methodist.	
Rev. T. I. Vanderbroeck	Menomonies	Little Chute, &c.	3	18	28	46	Catholic.	
St. Louis superintendency.								
Rev. E. T. Peeny	Various tribes	Fort Leavenworth	–	91	46	137	Methodist	Manual labor school.
E. McCoy	Pottawatomies	Osage river	3	15	5	20	Baptist.	
B. M. Adams	Weas, Piankeshaws, &c.	Do.	3	12	5	17	Do.	
Rev. I. F. L. Verreydt	Pottawatomies	Sugar creek	7	78	63	141	Catholic.	
Thomas Wells	Shawnees	Shawnee country	4	20	20	40	Quaker	Manual labor school.
Jotham Meeker	Ottowas	Ottowa mission	–	80	–	80		
Western superintendency.								
Walter A. Goss	Cherokees	Honey Hill	1	30	20	50		
R. S. Williams	Do.	Clear Spring	1	22	31	53		
Wm. L. Vann	Do.	Springfield	1	17	16	33		
Miss E. D. Hoyt	Do.	Muddy Spring	1	13	11	24		
Jacob Hitchcock	Do.	Dwight	9	–	75	75		
Edwin Archer	Do.	Spring creek	1	13	6	19		
A. A. Chamberlin	Do.	Saline creek	1	16	10	26		
John S. Crump	Do.	Grand Saline	1	4	15	19		
James Nobles	Do.	Do.	1	6	4	10		
Rev. S. A. Worcester	Do.	Park Hill	4	16	23	39		
Daniel D. Hitchcock	Do.	Do.	1	11	8	19		
Wm. S. Simpson	Do.	14-Mile creek	1	11	7	18		
Martin V. Root	Do.	Caney	1	41	20	61		
Nancy Hoyt	Do.	Tallequah	1	13	12	25		

Thomas Frye	Do.	Going-Snake district	1	32	2	34		
Sarah H. Hibbard	Do.	Do.	1	–	41	41		
Gilbert Bishop	Do.	Do.	2	10	4	14	Moravians.	
R. M. Loughridge	Creeks	Creek nation	1	–	–	22	– –	Manual labor school.
James Essex	Do.	Little river	1	15	–	15	Methodist.	
Edmund McKinney	Choctaws	Spencer academy	3	80	–	80	Presbyterian.	
Rev. E. Hotchkins	Do.	Good Water	4	–	38	38	Am. Board Com. For. Mis.	
Rev. Alfred Wright	Do.	Wheelock	6	–	52	52	Do. do.	
Rev. Cyrus Byington	Do.	Stockbridge	2	–	40	40	Do. do.	
Rev. E. Kingsbury	Do.	Pine Ridge	1	–	36	36	Do. do.	
Rev. E. B. Duncan	Chickasaws	Pleasant Grove	2	25	–	25		
Samuel G. Patterson	Quapaws	Crawford seminary	1	18	–	18		
New York sub agency.								
Augustus Warren	New York Indians	Tonawanda	1	–	–	30		
Asher Wright	Do.	Buffalo creek	3	42	31	73	Am. Board Com. For. Mis.	
Anson Gleason	Mohegans	Mohegan school	1	8	10	18		
Rev. Solomon Davis	Duck Creek	Oneidas	1	15	20	35	Episcopal.	
Oregon.	– –	– –	–	–	–	–	– –	No returns.
Choctaw academy.								
D. Vanderslice	Various tribes	Choctaw academy, Ky.	–	68	–	68	– –	

No. 80.

Statement showing the amount and disposition of funds provided by treaty for education purposes.

Tribes.	Date of treaty.	Amount.	How expended.
Chippewas	Aug. 6, 1836	$1,000	Baptist board.
Chippewas, Ottowas, and Pottawatomies	Sept. 26, 1833	3,825	Choctaw academy.
Chippewas, Menomonees, Winnebagoes, and New York Indians	Aug. 11, 1837	1,500	Protestant Episcopal.
Choctaws	Sept. 27, 1830	2,500	Schools in the nation.
Do	Sept. 27, 1830	12,000	Do do.
Do	Jan. 20, 1825	6,000	Do do.
Chickasaws	May 24, 1834	3,000	Choctaw academy.
Creeks	May 24, 1832	3,000	Do do.
Do	Feb. 14, 1833	1,000	Schools in the nation.
Cherokees	May 6, 1828	2,000	Do do.
Delawares	Sept. 24, 1829	2,844	Manual labor, Fort Leavenworth.
Florida Indians	Sept. 18, 1823	1,000	Schools in the nation.
Miamies	Oct. 23, 1826	2,000	Choctaw academy.
Ottowas and Chippewas	Mar. 28, 1836	8,000	Schools in the nation.
Ottoes and Missourias	Sept. 21, 1833	500	Do do.
Osages	June 25, 1823	3,456	Do do.
Pottawatomies	Oct. 16, 1826	2,000	Choctaw academy.
Do	Sept. 28, 1828	1,000	Do do.
Do	Oct. 27, 1832	2,000	Do do.
Pawnees	Oct. 9, 1833	1,000	Schools in the nation.
Quapaws	May 13, 1833	1,000	Do do.
Sacs and Foxes of Missouri	Oct. 21, 1837	770	Do do.
Winnebagoes	Sept. 15, 1832	3,000	Do do.
Do	Nov. 1, 1837	2,800	Do do.

No. 81.

Statement of the civilization fund.

Balance on hand, January 1, 1845 - - - - -		$6,290 32
Add appropriation for 1845 - - - - -		10,000 00
		16,290 32
Of which there has been expended, from January 1 to September 30, 1845 - - -	$9,067 50	
Required to complete payments for the year 1845	3,300 00	
		12,367 50
Balance on hand - - - - - -		$3,922 82

No. 82.

WALLAMETTE, *November* 4, 1844.

SIR: The Hudson's Bay ship Columbia, sailing in a few days, via Sandwich Islands, for England, by the politeness of her owners I have the honor of again addressing you, and certainly under circumstances most favorable and gratifying.

Since my last, forwarded in March, aside from two or three incidents of an unpleasant nature, the colony and country have been in a state of unusual quietness, and the season has been one of great prosperity.

The legislative body, composed of nine members, met on the 24th of May, at the falls of Wallamette, and closed their short but effective session in nine days; having passed, in due form, twenty-five bills, most of which were of importance to us in the regulation of our intercourse. A few of these laws I transmit to you, and would here remark, the taxes were in general cheerfully paid. The liquor bill is popular, and the laws of Oregon are honored.

The liquor act not coming in force under sixty days from its passage, a few individuals (having clandestinely prepared, before its passage) improved this favored moment to dispose of all they could with any hopes of safety. Of this I was immediately notified, and hastened in from the Falatine plains, all the mischief, "as heretofore," being done in and about the town at the falls of the Wallamette.

Liquor was in our midst, as was but too manifest from the noisy, vulgar, obscene, and even diabolical expressions of those who had previously ever conducted in a quiet and orderly manner.

This was perplexing and exciting, as all professed ignorance; and many opinions prevailed regarding the amount manufactured, and the number interested, and especially regarding the seat of mischief or point where distilled.

I, resolved at whatever danger or cost to nip this in the bud, procured the call of a public meeting at once, and had the happiness to receive the following expression from all but one convened: "Resolved, That it be the sense of this meeting, that Doctor White, in his official relation, take such assistance as he may require, and forthwith search out and destroy

all intoxicating liquor that may be found in this vicinity or district of country."

P. G. Stewart, "executive," (chairman,) and John E. Long, M. D., secretary, started with ten volunteers early the ensuing morning, and found the distillery in a deep, dense thicket, 11 miles from town, at 3 o'clock, p. m. The boiler was a large size potash kettle, and all the apparatus well accorded. Two hogsheads and eight barrels of slush or beer were standing ready for distillation, with part of one barrel of molasses. No liquor was to be found, nor as yet had much been distilled.

Having resolved on my course, I left no time for reflection, but at once upset the nearest cask, when my noble volunteers immediately seconded my measures, making a river of beer in a moment; nor did we stop till the kettle was raised, and elevated in triumph at the prow of our boat, and every cask, with all the distilling apparatus, was broken to pieces and utterly destroyed. We then returned, in high cheer, to the town, where our presence and report gave general joy.

Two hours after my arrival, I received from James Connor, one of the owners, a written challenge for a bloody combat; which ended last week in his being indicted before the grand jury, fined $500, and disfranchised for life.

Six weeks since, an unhappy affray occurring between one Joel Turnham, late from Missouri, and Webley Hauxhaust, of Wallamette, and serious threats passing from the former, a warrant was issued, and Turnham, resisting with a deadly weapon, was shot down by the officer; for which he comes before the grand jury to-morrow. Turnham expired at once, being shot with three mortal wounds through the neck and head, but with singular desperation fought and resisted to the last.

So far as I understand the public expression, all unite in acquitting the officer, who has ever been a harmless, quiet, good citizen; while Turnham was regarded as a most desperate and dangerous character all abroad, having left Missouri under circumstances most unfavorable to his reputation and quiet here, where he has been particularly sour, irritable, and quarrelsome; and was the more obnoxious as he was reputed brave and generally too stout for his antagonist.

November 8. Since penning the last the grand jury have unanimously declared no bill; and here allow me to say, having accompanied judge Babcock to four of the courts embraced in the circuit of five counties, I have not seen, in any country, such uniform decorum and quietness as has prevailed throughout at these courts. Much of this mildness, sobriety, and good order is doubtless attributable to the absence of all intoxicating drinks.

The laws of this country, framed to meet present circumstances, are taking deeper and stronger root continually. And some are already suggesting, "notwithstanding our infancy," whether, if longer left without a mother's protection, it will not be well to undertake to run alone.

The resources of the country are rapidly developing, and the expectations of the people are generally high; the mildness of the climate and the strength of the soil greatly encourage the large emigration of last year. For the last twelve months, mercury has ranged from 96 to 30; four-fifths of the time from 80 to 55; making an agreeable summer and mild winter, grazing being good throughout, so much so that the jaded and worn down animals of the poor emigrants fatted up greatly to their surprise before spring, without feeding or the least attention.

Crops of all kinds unusually good, even to Indian corn, and cheerfulness prevails throughout since harvesting. As statements have been made in the States derogatory to our soil, allow me to say, it is believed, with the same cultivation, no country produces better wheat, oats, peas, barley, potatoes, or any other crops, save Indian corn, for which the nights are generally too cool for a heavy growth. The wheat crops being never injured by the frosts of winter or rains of summer, "as in the States," are remarkably sure; nor as yet have our crops been disturbed by flies or insects.

Wheat crops are heavy, as you will judge when I assure you, from simply turning over the prairie in June, scattering the seed in October, and then with no further trouble than passing the harrow over it, ten acres upon my plantation grew five hundred and forty-one bushels and a half. The river flats, containing much alluvial deposite, are very rich; the plains beautiful and verdant, being admirably watered, but generally sparsely timbered; the high lands well timbered and watered in many parts, and the soil tolerable, producing herbage for an abundance of deer, elk, mountain sheep, &c., &c. The entire Wallamette and Umpqua valleys, capable of sustaining a population of several millions, it is generally believed cannot be excelled, as a whole, for richness of soil, variety, grandeur, or beauty of scenery; nor, considering the latitude, can it be equalled in mildness, equability, and agreeableness of climate.

Since last writing, abundance of limestone has been found at the mouth of the Columbia, and likewise in this valley, conveniently obtained, and proves of an excellent quality. The Rev. Mr. De Smet arrived here in August last, bringing, as a part of his cargo, six priests, and as many nuns, fine hale looking girls, very acceptable just now, particularly as the Methodist mission is breaking up and the half-breed Canadian daughters are rapidly multiplying.

Having no pilot or chart to be depended upon, and his commander a stranger, he sailed in through the south channel, greatly to the surprise and alarm of all on shore; but without injury or difficulty, not once touching, and reporting abundance of water for the heaviest burden ships. * * *

The sands are supposed to have changed and improved the channel; but of this I know nothing, and am not a little skeptical; and am induced to attribute their success more to the fine day and small vessel than change of the sands in their favor, since Capt. Wilkes left. Capt. Couch, however, who has now been passing in and out here for the last five years in the service of Mr. Cushing of Newburyport, pronounces it a better port to enter than theirs, and says with pilots there will be little difficulty or danger.

Our exports are wheat, beaver, salmon, and lumber, for which in return we obtain from the Sandwich Islands sugar, molasses, tea, coffee and other commodities brought there from China, England and America.

We are much in want of a currency and market, American merchants being as yet a slender reliance; and in view of the large emigrating parties of each year, we should be greatly distressed for necessary articles of wearing apparel, but for the most commendable spirit of accommodation on the part of the Hudson's Bay Company.

Could some arrangement be entered into for us to supply the navy of the Pacific with bread, beef, pork, fish, &c., we would thereby be much improved in our condition. This might and perhaps ought to be done, in view of the encouragements held out for our people to emigrate to this

country. Should it not be convenient for our ships of war to come to the Columbia for such supplies, they could be shipped to the Sandwich Islands, if required. But more of this another time.

Having just taken the tour of the colony for the purpose of attending the courts and visiting the schools, it affords me pleasure to say I felt amply rewarded throughout. I found health, cheerfulness, and prosperity, and, certainly, most surprising improvements for the short length of time since they commenced. The decorum of the courts I have spoken of, and now have only to speak of the schools and Indians, and I am done; fearing I have already wearied your patience. For the want of means, the Methodist manual labor Indian school has lately been broken up, and this is now occupied as a boarding-school for white children of both sexes. The school is yet small, but well conducted, and promises usefulness to the colony. The school at the falls of the Wallamette and Falatine plains, and likewise the one under the direction of Rev. Mr. Blanchette, Catholic clergyman, are all small—numbering from 15 to 30 only; but are all well kept and doing good. I feel solicitous on this subject, and am saying and doing what I can to encourage education, but, like all other new countries, the people need and require their children much at home.

Since the unhappy affair of last spring the Indians have been unusually quiet, and the summer has been spent without alarm. I sent my interpreter, Mr. Lee, to the Wallawallas six weeks since to make some presents to the chiefs, as a safe conduct to the emigrants down to this place, but having as yet nothing from him of interest, I addressed a line to Mr. J. B. Littlejohn, who is just down from there, and received the annexed reply; all other statements are corroborative:

WALLAMETTE, *November* 1, 1844.

DEAR SIR: It is with the utmost pleasure I undertake to give you what information I am able to. I have resided with the missionaries of the American board for two years past; I have known their hearts, and am well acquainted with all they have done. Their influence among the Indians is by no means small, or their efforts vain, as their condition is very much improved, both in a spiritual and temporal point of view. And, dear sir, your efforts among and for them have been much to their advantage, and at the same time not to the disadvantage of the missionaries, but greatly to increase their usefulness among them. I have no doubt you have labored with this motive in view. The Indians are becoming civilized as fast or faster than any tribes concerning whom I am informed. Their anxiety for cattle, hogs, and sheep is very great; leading them to make most commendable efforts to obtain them, and their efforts are by no means vain. They have purchased a good number from those who are emigrants to this country, by exchanging their horses for cattle. Thus, while their horses have been very useful to the emigrants, they have greatly benefited themselves. They are enlarging their farms yearly—improving much in fencing, &c., &c. Quite a number of families are enabled to live from what they raise on their farms, the milk of their cows, and their beef. There is perfect quietness now existing among them, and I have no doubt this state of things will continue to exist. Many things that are interesting might be written, but time does not allow me to say more at present.

I am, dear sir, yours with the greatest respect,

J. B. LITTLEJOHN.

Thus far the Indians have kept their treaties of amity with me astonishingly well, and it is thought we have now as much to hope as fear from them, if we succeed in keeping out liquor, which, by the grace of God, not a few of us are resolved to do, though we do not pass unopposed, nor slightly opposed; and had it not been for that most salutary liquor law, and the hearty co-operation of some of the friends of temperance, with your agent, liquor would have already made ruinous havoc among us.

The Methodist mission, though we have not agreed on all subjects, have behaved very properly on this. And to them, in connexion with the honorable Hudson's Bay Company, will the colony be lastingly indebted for their commendable efforts.

Since my first arrival, I have not received a line from the department save the last year's report. As my condition is peculiar, and not a little embarrassing, I should feel greatly obliged for an expression and further instruction from the department. I have had, as may well be judged, much to contend with, in the midst of lawless Indians of so many different tribes, and lawless whites of so many nations—some bred upon old whaleships, others in the Rocky mountains, and hundreds on the frontiers of Missouri. I have at times waded in deep perplexing difficulties, but am now greatly relieved by the colonial government, which as yet is well administered, by reason, I now have less to do, and sail in smoother seas, meeting with less opposition than heretofore—my proper official relation towards the whites and Indians being better understood. * * * *

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient and humble servant,

E. WHITE,
Sub-agent Indian Affairs, W. R. M.

Hon. J. M. PORTER,
Secretary of War, Washington.

Whereas the people of Oregon, now occupying one of the most beautiful and interesting portions of the globe, are placed in the most critical and responsible position ever filled by men, owing, as they do, important duties to themselves, to their country, to posterity, and to mankind, as the founders of a new government and a young nation; and whereas the introduction, distillation, or sale of ardent spirits, under the circumstances in which we are placed, would bring withering ruin upon the prosperity and prospects of this interesting and rising community, by involving us in idle and dissolute habits, inviting hither swarms of the dissipated inhabitants of other countries, checking immigration, destroying the industry of the country, bringing upon us the swarms of savages now in our midst, interrupting the orderly and peaceable administration of justice, and in a word producing and perpetuating increasing and untold miseries that no mind can rightly estimate: therefore,

Be it enacted by the Legislative Committee of Oregon as follows:

ARTICLE I.

SEC. 1. That if any person shall hereafter import or introduce any ardent spirits into Oregon, with intent to sell, barter, or trade the same, and shall

offer the same for sale, barter, or trade, he shall be fined the sum of fifty dollars for each and every such offence, which may be recovered by indictment or by trial before a justice of the peace, without the form of pleading.

Sec. 2. That if any person shall hereafter sell, barter, or trade any ardent spirits of any kind whatever, directly or indirectly, to any person within Oregon, he shall forfeit and pay the sum of twenty dollars for each and every such sale, barter, or trade, to be recovered by indictment in the circuit court, or before a justice of the peace, without the form of pleading.

Sec. 3. That if any person shall hereafter establish or carry on any manufactory or distillery of ardent spirits in Oregon, he shall be subject to be indicted before the circuit court as for a nuisance; and if convicted, he shall be fined the sum of one hundred dollars, and the court shall issue an order to the sheriff, directing him to seize and destroy the distilling apparatus, which order the sheriff shall execute.

Sec. 4. That it shall be the duty of all sheriffs, judges, justices, constables, and other officers, when they have reason to believe that this act has been violated, to give notice thereof to some justice of the peace or judge of a court, who shall immediately issue his warrant and cause the offending party to be arrested, and, if such officer has jurisdiction to try such case, shall proceed to try such offender without delay, and give judgment accordingly; but, if such officer shall not have jurisdiction to try the case, he shall, if the party be guilty, bind him over to appear before the next circuit court of the proper county.

Sec. 5. That all sales, barters, or trades, made under color of gifts or otherwise, with intent to evade this act, shall be deemed a violation of the same; and all fines and penalties recovered under this act shall go into the general treasury; and all officers receiving the same shall pay over to the sheriff, whose duty it shall be to pay the same into the treasury.

Sec. 6. That this act shall not be so construed as to prevent any practising physician from selling such liquors for medicine, not to exceed one gallon at one time.

Sec. 7. That the clerk shall make out a copy of this act and put the same up in Oregon City as early as practicable.

Sec. 8. That this act shall take effect within sixty days from and after its passage.

Passed 24th June, 1844.

M. M. McCARVER, *Speaker.*

Attest:
J. E. Long, *Clerk.*

Oregon City, *July* 27, 1844.

Pursuant to public notice, a meeting of the inhabitants of Oregon City was held on the 27th July, 1844—P. G. Steward, chairman, and J. E. Long, secretary—for the purpose of considering the propriety of taking some measures immediately, in order to prevent the sale and distribution of ardent spirits in Oregon; and, also, to consider the propriety of arresting *Hiram Straight*, for using threatening and menacing language towards several peaceable residents of this place.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That Doctor E. White, upon his own responsibility as Indian

agent, procure as much assistance as he can, and proceed to destroy the distilling apparatus now in use in this neighborhood, and arrest the persons, if they can be discovered, who are engaged in distilling.

On motion, the meeting adjourned.

P. G. STEWARD, *Chairman.*

J. E. LONG, *Secretary.*

AN ACT on land claims, passed 25th June, 1844.

Be it enacted by the Legislative Committee of Oregon as follows:

ARTICLE I.

SEC. 1. That all persons who have heretofore made, or who shall hereafter make, permanent improvements upon a place, with a *bona fide* intention of occupying and holding the same for himself, and continue to occupy and cultivate the same, shall be entitled to hold six hundred and forty acres, and shall hold only one claim at the same time: *Provided*, a man may hold town lots in addition to his claim.

SEC. 2. That all claims hereafter made shall be in a square form, if the nature of the ground shall permit; and, in case the situation will not permit, shall be in an oblong form.

SEC. 3. That, in all cases where claims are already made, and in all cases where there are agreed lines between the parties occupying adjoining tracts, such claims shall be valid to the extent of six hundred and forty acres, although not in a square or oblong form.

SEC. 4. That, in all cases where claims shall hereafter be made, *such* permanent improvements shall be made within two months from the time of taking up said claim, and the first settler, or his successor, shall be deemed to hold the prior right.

SEC. 5. That no person shall hold a claim under the provisions of this act, except free males over the age of eighteen, who would be entitled to vote if of lawful age, and widows: *Provided*, no married man shall be debarred from holding a claim under this act, because he is under the age of eighteen.

SEC. 6. That all laws heretofore passed in regard to land claims be and the same are hereby repealed.

SEC. 7. That all persons complying with the provisions of this act shall be deemed in possession to the extent of six hundred and forty acres, or less, as the case may be; and shall have the remedy of forcible entry and detainer against intruders, and the action of trespass against trespassers.

M. M. McCARVER, *Speaker.*

Attest: J. E. LONG, *Secretary.*

Doc. No. 2.

AN ACT to provide for ways and means.

Be it enacted by the Legislative Committee of Oregon as follows:

ARTICLE I.

SEC. 1. That, in order to raise a revenue for the purposes of defraying the expenses of the government, there shall be levied and collected a tax of one eighth of one per cent. upon the following property, at a fair valuation, to wit: All merchandise brought into this country for sale; improvements in town lots; mills; pleasure carriages; clocks; watches; horses; mules; cattle, and hogs.

SEC. 2. All male citizens over the age of twenty-one years, being a descendant of a white man, shall be subject to pay a poll tax of fifty cents.

SEC. 3. That it shall be the duty of the collector of revenue to require of each and every merchant of Oregon to give him a statement of the amount of all merchandise on hand, in writing, to be stated upon oath or affirmation, which oath or affirmation the collector shall administer; and said collector shall collect and receipt for the tax upon such merchandise, which receipt shall serve said merchant for a license for the next year, commencing from the time given. And that when a merchant shall wish to renew his license, he shall give a similar statement of all merchandise received by him for sale in the preceding 12 months, and the collector shall only require him to pay tax upon the amount of said imports.

SEC. 4. That any person refusing to pay tax as in this act required, shall have no benefit of the laws of Oregon, and shall be disqualified from voting at any election in this country.

SEC. 5. That the sheriff shall serve as *ex officio* collector of the revenue, for which he shall receive, as a compensation for his services, ten per cent. upon all moneys collected as revenue.

SEC. 6. That the sheriff, before entering upon the duties of his office as collector of the revenue, shall enter into bond, with two or more good and sufficient securities, in a sum not less than five nor more than ten thousand dollars, to be approved by the Executive, which approval shall be written upon the back of said bond, and the said collector's bond shall be filed in the office of the clerk of the court.

SEC. 7. That the collector shall pay over to the treasury, on the first Monday in each and every month in the year, all moneys that may be in his hands, and get the treasurer's receipt therefor.

SEC. 8. That it shall be the duty of the tribunal transacting county business to require the collector to settle with said court at each and every regular term of the court in Klackamas county.

SEC. 9. The collector of the revenue shall make full payment into the treasury on or before the first Monday in December in each year.

SEC. 10. The revenue of Oregon shall be collected in specie or available orders on solvent merchants in Oregon.

SEC. 11. That all acts and parts of acts contrary to this act be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

SEC. 12. This act shall take effect from and after its passage.

M. M. McCARVER, *Speaker.*

Attest:

J. E. LONG, *Secretary.*

Oregon Territory, Fallatine District, United States of America, May 1, 1844.

Charles E. Pickett, plaintiff, in the name of Oregon territory, threatening to incense the Indians, *against* Saul, a man of color.

Complainant's oath and warrant issued, directed to J. L. Meek, sheriff, and summons for three witnesses, viz: James Conner, William Hill, and Mr. Bird.

May 3.—Sheriff made his return, with defendant and witnesses, and jury of good and lawful men, viz: Philip Foster, W. C. Dement, J. W. Nesmith, John McCadden, C. Spencer, and S. W. Moss: being duly sworn, returned a verdict of guilty of the charges alleged to him, and signed their names, viz: Philip Foster, J. W. Nesmith, William C. Dement, John McCadden, Chauncey Spencer, and S. W. Moss.

Two witnesses, viz: William Hill and Mr. Bird, of lawful age, being duly sworn, did depose and say: that the threats in the deposition of Charles E. Pickett were correct; and that the Indians had come in a menacing manner; and that Saul said he would stand for the Indians' rights; and that he (Saul) was armed and prepared to do so; and that the Indians would burn and destroy his house and property. The charges being of a higher character than the Oregon laws have cognizance of, judgment is, that the United States sub Indian agent, Dr. Elijah White, is the proper officer to take cognizance of him; and he, Saul, a man of color, be forthwith delivered into said agent's hand; which was forthwith done.

ROBERT MOORE.
Justice of the Peace.

The criminal was received and kept in custody for some weeks; but having no prison-house or jail to lodge him in, and the captain absolutely declining taking him on board his vessel, after the storm had blown over I suffered and encouraged him to leave this place, and stop with one of the mission families for the present, at the mouth of the Columbia.

Though unsuccessful in getting employment as I had hoped, he remains in that vicinity with his Indian wife and family, conducting, as yet, in a quiet manner, but doubtless ought to be transported, together with every other negro, being in our condition dangerous subjects.

Until we have some further means of protection, their emigration ought to be prohibited. Can this be done?

E. WHITE, *Sub-agent.*

TERRITORY OF OREGON, } *ss.*
District of Fallatine, }

Charles E. Pickett, being duly sworn, says that Saul, (a man of color) of said territory, has threatened to incense the Indians against his person and property, to destroy the same; and that he, the said Charles E. Pickett, verily believes that, unless measures are taken to prevent him, there are sufficient grounds to apprehend that he will carry those threats into execution.

Sworn to and subscribed this 1st day of May, 1844, before me.

ROBERT MOORE, *J. P.*

We, the jury, find the prisoner guilty of the charges alleged to him.

PHILIP FOSTER,
J. W. NESMITH,
WM. C. DEMENT,
JOHN McCADDEN,
CHAUNCEY SPENCER,
S. W. MOSS.

No. 83.

OREGON, WILLAMETTE VALLEY,
April 4, 1845.

SIR: Through the politeness of Governor McLaughlin—the Hudson's bay express leaving (via the mountains) for Canada to-morrow—I have again the honor and pleasure of addressing you from this remote portion of earth.

Since my last, of November, 1844, giving an account of the destruction of the distillery, the general health, quietness, prosperity, and rapid growth of the colony, together with the good order and decorum which prevailed throughout at the courts, all has moved forward here as satisfactorily as could have been expected.

Starting too late, and the winter rains setting in earlier than usual, subjected the immigrants to incredible suffering and hardships, especially from the Dalles of the Columbia down to the Willamette valley; but our early and delightful spring is exerting a cheering and most salutary influence upon their hitherto depressed spirits. They have, bee-like, been hived up in Oregon City during the winter, and are now swarming, to the entire satisfaction of the first occupants of the hive; it not being wide and large enough for such an unexpected increase. The last immigration, numbering about a thousand, are generally pleased with the country, and are setting about their spring work with becoming spirit and fortitude.

The Indians of this lower country, whose national honor and dignity are laid in the dust, are looking upon the rapid growth and increased strength of the whites with sorrowful countenances and sad hearts. The present state of things between us and them is peculiar, critical, unenviable, and dangerous, at least so far as peace and property are concerned.

For instance, in proof;—soon after I sent my last despatches, the chief of the Fallatine plains, whose orderly conduct and that of his clan did honor to the Nespercés laws, and the engagement we had mutually entered into, called on me, desiring my offices in procuring the mending of his gun. This being done, he invited me to come and see him and his people; said all was not right at his lodge; his tribe was divided, and all was not right; his influence was waning, and some of his people were becoming very bitter towards the Americans. Observing anxiety and mental reservation, I endeavored to draw out the secret, reminding him of the frequent communications he had brought me from the Rev. Messrs. Clark and Griffin, bearing such satisfactory testimony to their previous quiet, orderly, and proper conduct, &c., &c.; but all I could learn was, "things are not right with us, and we are miserable."

The *Camass*. Their principal dependance for food was cut off last

season by reason of the drought; and the deer are hunted so much by the late hungry emigrant western riflemen, that they have become wild, poor, and few in number. The chief left.

A few days after, I learned they had killed an ox and ate it, belonging to a neighboring white man. The owner was excited, and applied to one of the executive; a proclamation was issued, the military was called out, (if it be lawful to call it such,) and ample preparations made to avenge this national insult, and seek redress for this astounding loss. The army collected upon the opposite bank of the river, about six miles from the position occupied by the enemy, talked bravely, long, and loud, but the river was a little too high to cross that day;—appointed another, the river being lower; none of the warriors appeared; nor could the executive, or owner, simply for the want of a few gallons of alcohol, obtain the necessary assistance to avenge the horrid wrong, and perform a brilliant military exploit. The chief, in his embarrassment and distress, came to me as usual for sympathy and succor. My coldness and look of severity (for which Heaven forgive me) keenly afflicted him. After a deep sigh and painful pause, peculiar to a wounded or injured Indian, he slowly rose, gently smiting his breast, and, said "Doctor White, I am a true man, and carry an honest heart. Do you remember my coming to get my gun mended last fall? Do you remember my words, that all was not right with our people, and my inviting you to come and see us? We had just before killed that old ox, and was then eating it." I inquired, Had you any thing to do with it personally? "Yes—I helped to kill it, and, with my family, took and ate one-half of the animal. You saw the condition of my gun;—our provisions were out; I and others had hunted for two days—our hunger was great. We held a council; and, hoping for success, I promised, on condition nothing was caught till the setting of another sun, we would kill the first animal we met. I travelled far, and wearied myself till evening; shot often, but killed nothing;—we met this poor old ox, which our people would scorn to kill or eat but in case of extreme hunger;—my word was passed to my people; I could not go back from my word; I helped to kill and butcher the ox, and joined in eating him; and now my peace is gone. I am ashamed to see a white man's face—they look cold on me, and shake the head;—I cannot bear it—I cannot live so;—I come to you to help me, for I am told they want to kill me. I do not want such feelings to exist; nor do I want to be hunted as a bear or wild beast, for slaughter. I stand here a wisher of peace, willing to have you dictate the terms; but wish to have it remembered that we were distressed with hunger." "Suppose," said I, "the owner should require your rifle and four horses?" "You stand to judge between us, and I shall abide your decision." "But you have broken your engagement and forfeited confidence, and I fear it cannot be settled, as some think you have killed before." "Doctor White, I am a true man, and lie not. I, nor my people, cannot be so accused justly; this is injurious; none can meet my face and say it." I wrote, through him, to the owner praying, as it was the first offence so far as we had the least evidence, and especially in view of our critical situation and his general good behavior, that he would fully indemnify himself; and then, in view of what I knew of the condition of his gun, and the probability that it was induced by hunger, to settle it; and requested him to assure the chief that he was convinced from my letter and all the circumstances,

in connexion with his past good conduct, that it must have been brought about by hunger.

The advice was rejected, as the laws of the organization now had cognizance of the offence, and he wished to see them faithfully enforced. Public opinion became divided, and no judicial expression being made, and the poor chief becoming excessively tired of being held by public opinion in durance vile, came to see me a second time. I wrote again, and learnt it was settled by the chief and his people paying his rifle and eight horses. If this be correct, (as I fear it is,) I abominate the act, and dread its prejudicial influence.

Week before last a hungry and mischievous lodge killed a cow. They were pursued by a party of whites, overtaken, and, in attempting to take them, the Indians fired upon the whites, killed one horse, and wounded another. The fire was returned; one Indian killed, and a second wounded. Thus ended this affair, which creates very little excitement among the whites or Indians.

The most painful circumstance that has occurred lately, transpired last fall, at California. The Kayuse, Wallawallas, and some of the chiefs of the Spokans, entered upon the hazardous but grand and important enterprise of going directly through the Indian country to California, with a view of exchanging their beaver, deer, and elk skins, together with their surplus horses, for neat stock. As they had to pass through an extensive country inhabited by the savage and warlike Clamets and Chesties, where Smith, Turner, and so many other white parties had been defeated, we are at a loss to conclude whether their valor is to be more commended than the rashness of their stupendous enterprise to be censured. They were well mounted and equipped; the chiefs clad in English costume, and the residue attired in dressed skins, moulded according to their several tastes. The journey of seven or eight hundred miles, after some fighting, watching, and much fatigue, was accomplished, and their number not lessened.

Taking their own statement, their reception was cordial, and the impression made upon the whites by these distant and half civilized people, upon an errand so commendable, was most favorable. The treating and salutations being over, the trade commenced in good faith, and to mutual satisfaction. All moved on well, till, on an excursion to procure elk and deer skins, they met a marauding band of mountain free booters; fought them; and, being victorious, took a prize of twenty-two horses, all previously stolen from the whites.

On returning to the settlements, the Spaniards laid claim to the animals. The chiefs remonstrated and said, agreeable to their customs the horses were theirs. The Spaniards explained their laws, and showed the animals not to be vented, i. e. bearing a transfer mark, and told the Indians they must give them to the rightful owners, as all Americans and others did. The Indians seemed grieved and rather incensed; said in their country six nations of people were on terms of amity, and that in case any one of these six nations stole a horse, the tribe was responsible for the safe delivery of that animal to the rightful owner; but in case the Blackfeet or other formidable enemy steal or capture, the property is supposed lost, without redemption; and as we have captured these horses at the hazard of our lives, from your long openly declared enemies, we think they ought in justice to be ours. The Spaniards condescended to offer ten cows for the redemption of the horses; the chief not replying, five more were added; he still remain-

ing moody and without replying, the negotiation unhappily broke off. A day or two after, an American, seeing his mule among the number captured, told the Indians it was his mule, and have it he would. Will you? said a young chief by the name of Elijah Heading; and stepping into the lodge, immediately loaded his rifle, came out and observed very significantly, Go now and take your mule. The American, much alarmed, remarked, I hope you are not going to kill me. No! I am going to shoot yonder eagle, (perched upon a neighboring oak.) Not liking the appearances, the man left without attempting to obtain his mule. A day or two after, the Indians left their encampment and walked down to the fort of Capt. Suter to church; and from the best information we have obtained, (all being ex parte) the following appears to be nearly the truth. After service Elijah was invited into another apartment, taking with him his uncle, a brave and sensible chief of the age of five-and forty; while there, in an unarmed and defenceless condition, they commenced menacing him for things alleged against the river Indians of this upper country, in which none of them had any participation; called them indiscriminately dogs, thieves, &c., &c. This American then observed, Yesterday you were going to kill me; now you must die—drawing a pistol. Elijah, who had been five or six years at the Methodist mission, and had learned to read, write, and speak English respectably, said deliberately: Let me pray a little first; and kneeling down, at once commenced; and while invoking the Divine mercy, was shot through the heart or vitals dead upon the spot. Every measure, as the Indians say, was taken to cut them all off by the Spaniards, who brought out the cannon, with other fire arms, and hotly pursued them, and tried to prevent their escape by checking and interrupting their passage across the ferries, &c., &c. But at length they all arrived safely, after manifest suffering, leaving all the herds they had paid for in California.

They met three Americans on the way as they left California settlements, and had them in their power; but instead of revenging the death of Elijah, they mounted each on a horse of their own, and sent them in, telling them to go to the fort and acquaint the people that, as christians, they could not kill innocent white people in their power and lodge.

Taking for truth an Indian report, this horrible affair creates considerable excitement, and there is some danger of its disturbing the friendly relation that has hitherto existed between us here, and all those formidable tribes in the region of Wallawalla and Snake river. They had no sooner arrived than Ellis, my interpreter, the high chief of the Nespercés, was deputed to come down and learn our opinions regarding the affair. They could not have sent a better agent, the whites all giving him a handsome and cordial reception. From Walla he accompanied Mr. Grant, the chief trader at Fort Hall, down to Vancouver. He called on Dr. McLaughlin, whose great experience and address were serviceable. He spoke touchingly of the violent death of his own son upon the northwest coast, and left the impression that he could not avoid sympathising with the father and friends of the deceased young chief. Mr. Douglass, too, an early friend, patron, and favorite of Ellis, aided much in convincing him that all the good and virtuous could not avoid the most painful regrets at so melancholy a circumstance, which must have occurred by reason of the difference in their customs or laws; imperfectly understanding each other, or from some, as he would charitably hope, excusable circumstance.

Under the influence of this salutary language and interview, Ellis

arrived at my residence, in Willamette, about the first instant, having, a short time before, got a hasty communication, written in excitement, from Dr. Whitman, who was under serious apprehensions that it might be avenged upon some of the whites of the upper country: be assured I was happy to see this my most faithful friend and interpreter. Sir, pardon me for saying—isolated as we are here, agitated, as we have a thousand times been, by faithless savages, and still more faithless whites, responsible yet powerless and defenceless in our unsettled state of things—to meet with this honest man, this real friend, though an Indian, gave me most hearty satisfaction.

His thorough education at Red river moulded him into more of the white man than red. His prudence and good management with his tribe sanctioned the choice that had been made, and all the whites spoke handsomely of his kind offices and obliging deportment, whilst emigrating through his country. Being satisfied of the safety and policy, I feasted him well, and took at once unobserved measures to have him invited to every respectable place, all abroad, where the ladies and gentlemen received us so cordially, and feasted us so richly and delicately, that he almost forgot the object of his embassy, and, I verily believe, thought extremely highly of the whites of Willamette, however ill he might have thought of the conduct of the Californians.

Being anxious to make this visit useful to him and his people, as well as pleasant, after spending a few days in visiting the schools, as well as the principal inhabitants and places of interest, I showed him my little library; told him to make himself at home; put on my farmer's garb and commenced working upon my plantation. He soon came out, accompanied by a wealthy cousin, and begged for tools to assist me. I loaned them, and found he was much at home in their use. He spent with me a sufficient length of time to convince me of the truth reported concerning his cheerfulness in labor, as well as his knowledge, application, and assiduity in business. He spoke sensibly of the advantages of industry, and the astonishing change that had been effected among his people, by the cultivation of the soil; assured me that every family or lodge now raised an abundance for home consumption, besides having considerable quantities to barter with the whites. He says he raised himself, the past season, six hundred bushels of peas, with a fine crop of wheat, potatoes, beans, &c, &c.; spoke properly of its moral and social effects. Wars were no longer talked of, and the chase was nearly abandoned; the book and the Bible consumed their leisure moments. Polygamy, once so common, except in two solitary cases, was now done away, and not a lodge of my people but observe the Sabbath, and regularly attend morning and evening devotion. All this was only corroborative of what I had previously heard from other sources. He spent ten days with me in the most cheerful, agreeable, and profitable manner, and at the close I felt myself the happier and better man for the visit; nor did I marvel that his influence was increasing and the prospects of his people brightening.

Pardon me, for, in thinking of his visit and dwelling upon his excellencies, I had like to have forgotten his agency. Learning from Dr. Whitman, who resides in their midst, how much they were all excited by reason of the treacherous and violent death of this educated and accomplished young chief, and perhaps more especially by the loss they had sustained; and then, after suffering so many hardships and encountering so many

dangers, losing the whole—I apprehended there might be much difficulty in adjusting it, particularly as they lay much stress upon the restless, disaffected scamps late from Willamette to California, loading them with the vile epithets of "dogs," "thieves," &c. &c., from which they believed, or affected to believe, that the slanderous reports of our citizens caused all their loss and disasters, and therefore held us responsible. He assured me that the Kayuse, Wallawallas, Nespercés, Spokans, Ponderoys, and Snakes, were all on terms of amity, and that a portion of the aggrieved party were for raising about two thousand warriors of these formidable tribes and march to California at once, and, nobly revenging themselves on the inhabitants by capture and plunder, enrich themselves upon the spoils; others, not indisposed to the enterprise, wished first to learn how it would be regarded here, and whether we would remain neutral in the affair. A third party were for holding us responsible, as Elijah was killed by an American, and the Americans incensed the Spaniards. Ellis reminded me at the same time of the ill success the chiefs met with in trading off their ten dollar drafts for herds with the emigrants; which drafts I had sent up by Mr. Lee, my interpreter, to secure peace and safety while the emigrants were passing through their country; the year before so many having been pillaged and robbed of their effects, through the inattention of the chiefs.

Sir, how this affair will end is difficult to conjecture; the general impression is, that it will lead to the most disastrous consequences to the Californians themselves, or to the colony of the Willamette valley. My principal fear is, that it will result in so much jealousy, prejudice, and disaffection, as to divert their minds from the pursuit of knowledge, agriculture, and the means of civilization, which they have been for such a length of time so laudably engaged in obtaining.

Should this be the case with these numerous, brave, and formidable tribes, the results to them, and to us, would be indeed most calamitous. To prevent such a result I wrote, through Ellis, a long, cordial, and rather sympathizing letter to the chiefs of these tribes, assuring them that I should at once write to the Governor of California, to Captain Suter, and to our great chief, respecting this matter. With a view to divert attention, and promote good feeling, I invited all the chiefs to come down in the fall, before the arrival of the immigrants, in company with Dr. Whitman and Mr. Spalding, and confer with me upon this subject; at the same time, as they had been so unfortunate, to bring along their ten dollar drafts, and exchange them with me for a cow and calf, each out of my own herds. I likewise wrote them, that on condition they would defer going to California till the spring of 1847, and each chief assist me to the amount of two beaver skins, to get a good manual labor literary institution established for the English education of their sons and daughters, (a subject they feel the deepest interest in,) I would use every measure to get the unhappy affair adjusted; and, as a token of my regard for them, would, from my private funds, give the chiefs $500, to assist them in purchasing young cows in California. I likewise proffered, as they are so eager for it, to start the English school next fall, by giving them the services of Mr. Lee, my interpreter, for four months, commencing in November next.

Ellis more than properly appreciated my motives and proffers, and said he was of the full belief the chiefs would accede to my proposition; spoke of the importance of the English school, and of the strong and general

desire to obtain it. He left in high hopes of a continuance of peace and onward prosperity to his people.

A few days later brought me into another excitement and difficulty, at Vancouver. Two young men, named in McLaughlin's communication to this government, (a copy of which, marked A, together with a reply, accompanies these despatches,) crossed the Columbia river, and, unobserved, in the midst of a little thicket something over half a mile from Fort Vancouver, felled some timber—threw up a few logs in the shape of a hut, intending soon to finish it—put up a paper upon a contiguous tree, stating that they had commenced and intended to establish a claim agreeably with——here the note ended. Some one about the establishment, observing the paper and commencement of the hut, reported it to the governor, who sent down at once and had all the timbers removed from the vicinity; the tree felled, and that, with the paper likewise, removed. They had hardly cleared the ground when the claimants arrived with a surveyor, and commenced surveying off a section of land, embracing the spot first commenced upon. They were inquired of, at the instance of Governor McLaughlin, as to their object and intentions. They at once laid down the chain, dropt all business, and walked up to the fort. Several respectable and influential American citizens happened to be present on business, who, with myself, were respectfully invited to hear the discussion.

Williamson, a modest and respectable young man, demeaned himself with propriety; but Alderman, his associate, an insolent, boisterous, hair-brained scape gallows, caused me (as occasionally others do) to blush for American honor. His language was most insufferable, and, but for the sake of the country's quiet, could not have been endured; the Governor and Mr. Douglass displaying their usual calmness and forbearance. I heard the discussion for two hours; and, becoming satisfied that no possible good could grow out of it, remarked that with the cheerful consent of both parties I would give my sense of the matter.

Each readily consenting, I thought best to come up on the blind side of Alderman; treated his measures with less severity, and himself with more consideration and respect, than he anticipated; spoke of Greenough's construction of the treaty between the two governments (which I happened to have with me); of the immense district of country dependant upon this establishment for supplies in beef, pork, &c., &c.; and, as evidence that they had not more land contiguous than was necessary for their purposes, spoke of the number of cattle and other stock that had died from starvation during the last winter; dwelt upon the importance of union and good feeling among all the whites, surrounded as we were by savages, in our weak and defenceless condition, and especially of the propriety of establishing correct precedents in our unsettled state regarding land claims; and, without advising particularly either party, took my seat.

Williamson and Alderman soon manifested a desire for a private interview, which resulted in a suspension of hostilities for the present, and probably an abandonment of the claim.

Now, my dear sir, suffer me to write a few things concerning this country, which seem to me strongly to demand the speedy attention of the members of our government. Take thirty men from the colony, of the most intelligence, firmness, and prudence, and anarchy and confusion follow. Suffer a free introduction of ardent spirits, and desolation, horror, dismay, and bloodshed ensue. Never were a people more ill prepared for self-government,

nor more unfavorably circumstanced to succeed—aside from the single circstance of the absence of all intoxicating drinks.

Sir, too great a portion of our population comes from the western suburbs of civilization, for one moment's safety to us in our present condition. I know not but I have as much patience as most men, but I am heartily tired of this state of things. Nor would I run the risk again, by land and water, from whites and savages, for the safety and quietness of the colony and country, for all the wealth of earth. I have not shrunk from toil, danger, nor hardships, and, though alone-handed and unsustained, black-balled and traduced, astonishing to say, my measures have succeeded. I think of the past with a clear conscience, yet at present, at peace as we are, I look upon our critical condition with an anxious, aching heart, feeling that the members of our government err exceedingly towards their subjects in Oregon.

As I have so often said of this lower country, with its beauty, excellence of soil, and mildness of climate, it might be rendered the paradise of earth; but, sir, every thing is jeoparded by the tardiness of our government measures; not only the poor, injured natives, but the whites generally, have become wearied to impatience in waiting for an expression from our government, and disaffection, with a want of confidence, is taking the place of previous warm feeling and strong attachment.

I regret this exceedingly, but feel it my duty to speak out in truth and distinctness upon this important point. I have said and done what I could to keep up confidence and hope; but already demagogues are haranguing in favor of independence, and using the most disparaging language regarding the measures of our government as a reason for action. These are but the beginnings, and, though I am glad to say such sentiments do not generally obtain, yet they are more favorably listened to this year than last; their natural results and practical tendency you will readily perceive.

Your annual report of 1843 reached me only a few days since, having been broken open on the way, then put into the hands of Indians, and forwarded to me through that channel. And while I have to regret never having received any thing from your pen, be assured I am not insensible to the honor done me, in speaking as you did of my report, through yours of 1843 to the Secretary of War. I feel any kind expression from home the more sensibly, from the torrent of opposition I have been forced to meet and contend with here; but am happy to observe that my influence is increasing, and my measures are being better understood and appreciated.

Influence here is most important; I felt this strikingly a few weeks since. Three among the most correct and sensible men of the colony formed a copartnership to enter largely upon the brewery business. They had already taken some steps; and as the business promised to be lucrative, the probabilities were against me in attempting to dissuade them from their purpose. I visited them, labored calmly, honestly, and faithfully, and felt the difference in dealing or talking with men of sense and principle, over many whom I have to do with in Oregon.

The interview broke up most agreeably, not an unpleasant sentence having passed; the gentlemen engaging to give me their decision very soon. This was communicated to me two days after, in a delicate and handsome manner, which was entirely to my wishes, the business being altogether abandoned. This was most gratifying to me, as, from such a quarter should beer be introduced, it would be impossible for us to prevent the introduction

of stronger drink into the colony and country, which, of all others, is most ill prepared to receive it.

The colony, now numbering about four thousand, is in a most flourishing state, and I am doubtful if any like number are more pleased or better contented in our wide domain. The schools of the country during the last winter have been well sustained; I have contributed to each, as was necessary, from ten to fifteen dollars to pay rents, &c., and to encourage them forward in their laudable struggle to educate their rising families.

I attended the examination of the Methodist institute school a few weeks since, and was most agreeably impressed regarding the institution.

The pleasant deportment and improved manners of the young ladies and gentlemen of the school, saying nothing of their astonishing advancement in the different departments of literature, was a cause of the highest gratification. I have nowhere attended an examination, taking all things into the account, more creditable to the principal or institution. I have called for a report, but am sorry it has not as yet come to hand.

The branches taught are rhetoric, grammar, geography, arithmetic, reading, writing, and spelling. The most enlightened and best disposed are using their influence to strengthen the organization, and perfect the laws of the colony. Many are favorable to the adoption of a constitution, by calling a convention for that purpose the present season. This being the most enlightened sense, and meeting with little opposition, I am of the opinion it will prevail. Should this be effected, the constitution, accompanied with a petition, will probably be forwarded by a delegate from this country to Washington city the coming winter. As the friends of the constitution generally wish best to the country, and desire to have everything so conducted as not to embarrass, but to meet with acceptance at home, I am solicited to be said delegate, and represent the wants of Oregon. A circulating medium is greatly needed; however, the enterprise and onward march of this people cannot easily be repressed. Through the auspices of the Hudson's Bay Company almost every man, requesting and needing it, is helped to sufficient means to commence upon his section of land; and, certainly, by far the greater number give evidence of well-placed confidence. The prairies are dotted over with houses, and the fruitful fields are spreading out widely all around us. Moral and religious influence, I regret to say, is waning; yet it is gratifying to observe an increasing interest upon the subject of schools and education; and I am happy to say we have now eleven schools this side the mountains, most of them small, to be sure, but they are exerting a salutary and beneficial influence.

Pardon the length and want of interest of my report. Did not duty hold me here, or had I funds appropriated to travel abroad to explore this delightful region of surrounding country, from what I learn of vague reports I have little doubt but much interesting, curious, and important information might be collected. But here I am, doomed to sit, watch, and sometimes almost fight for peace between whites and Indians—the question of right and wrong becoming more and more complicated continually; while now, allow me to say, the settling these difficulties necessarily costs me not a little. I believe most fully, in making a settlement with an Indian or tribe, to have it a happy, earnest, and hearty one; and, in order to effect this, they require a present as a seal. And, sir, this is my principal means of usefulness or influence over these poor, and, in many instances, injured natives. Their seeming confidence and regard makes one the more patient

and cheerful in doing for them; nor can I complain, as so many east of the mountains have been obliged to, of violated faith on the part of the Indians. From all I can learn, much of which little reliance is to be placed in, there appears to be about forty-two thousand Indians in the territory, allowing it to extend to 54° 40′ north latitude.

Mr. Lee's (my interpreter) report accompanying this you will observe. I would have accompanied him but for the season of the year, and the prevalence of the dysentery, which is sweeping off the poor natives of this lower country. This gave rise to Dr. Long's bill, which, I hope, will be honored, as it was a work of humanity as well as policy. I directed it, as I could not possibly attend to those and these at the same time, there being forty miles between us.

I hope, Providence permitting, to have the pleasure of seeing you and the other gentlemen of the departments, at Washington, in a few weeks, or months at longest, after this reaches you, and of explaining my accounts and reasons for expenditures.

I had not expected to draft on the department this spring; but there were no other means of settling with Governor McLaughlin, for the want of a circulating medium through which to operate.

Enclosed is a letter from Peter H. Burnett, esq., which I proposed forwarding in my last despatches, but I received it too late for transmission.

With great respect, I am, dear sir, your most humble and obedient servant,

ELIJAH WHITE,
Sub-agent Indian Affairs, W. R. M.

No. 83 *a*.

To the citizens of Oregon:

GENTLEMEN: We take the liberty of informing you that a person named "Henry Williamson," some time about the 15th of February, this year, took the liberty of erecting on the premises of the Hudson's Bay Company a few logs, in the form of a hut, and wrote a notice upon an adjoining tree that he had taken a section of land there. This was done without our knowledge or consent, within a few hundred yards of a house occupied by one of the Hudson's Bay Company's servants, and within the limits of their improvements. As soon as we were informed of that proceeding, we had the tree cut down and the logs removed, in order to prevent any future difficulty with the person who had, in a manner so unjustifiable, intruded on the Hudson's Bay Company's premises.

The Hudson's Bay Company made their settlement at Fort Vancouver, under the authority of a license from the British government, in conformity with the provisions of the treaty between Great Britain and the United States of America, which gives them the right of occupying as much land as they require for the operations of their business.

On the faith of that treaty, they have made a settlement on the north bank of the Columbia river; they have opened roads and made other improvements at a great outlay of capital; they have held unmolested possession of their improvements for many years, unquestioned by the public officers of either government, who have, since the existence of their settlements, re-

peatedly visited it; they have carried on business with manifest advantage to the country; they have given the protection of their influence over the native tribes to every person who required it, without distinction of nation or party; and they have afforded every assistance in their power towards developing the resources of the country and promoting the industry of its inhabitants.

The tract of land they occupy, on the north bank of the Columbia river, is indispensable to them as a range for their flocks and herds, but otherwise of little value, being in part inundated every summer by the waters of the Columbia, and in part unimproveable forest land.

Occupying the said tract of land by the authority of law, and under the protection of the British government, they cannot submit to the infringement of rights so acquired; and we, as their representatives, are bound to use every means sanctioned by the law which governs us against all trespassers on their premises, until otherwise directed by orders emanating from the Hudson's Bay Company.

Permit us to assure you, gentlemen, that it is our earnest wish to maintain a good understanding, and to live on friendly terms with every person in the country. We entertain the highest respect for the provisional organization; and knowing the good it has effected, as well as the evil it has prevented, we wish it every success, and hope, as we desire, to continue to live in the exercise and interchange of good offices with the framers of that useful institution.

The advantages of peace and harmony, of the support and maintenance of established rights, must be as evident to every member of the community as the evils flowing from a state of lawless misrule.

With these considerations before us, we feel confident that every person who desires the well-being of the country, who wishes to see it prosperous and flourishing, will unite in putting down every course which may have a tendency to disturb the public peace, and in promoting by every means in their power the cause of justice, obedience to the laws, and mutual accommodation.

With a fervent prayer to the Divine bestower of all good for the happiness and prosperity of every individual in the country, we have the honor to be, gentlemen, your very obedient servants,

JOHN McLAUGHLIN.
JAMES DOUGLASS.

No. 83 *b*.

FALLATINE PLAINS, *November* 2, 1844.

DEAR SIR: Your communication of the 20th October, 1844, was duly received, and a press of business has delayed my reply until now.

In relation to the subject of inquiry contained in your letter, (being the natural resources of Oregon,) I can truly say that I entertain a very high opinion of the great and decided advantages bestowed by nature upon this most interesting and beautiful portion of our globe.

Our facilities for commercial enterprise are most decided, as the rapidly increasing commerce of the great Pacific lies at our very door. The climate of this country is more *equable*, subject to fewer extremes than any,

perhaps, in the world. I have been here about one year, and have found it most delightful, and I can truly say that it is the most healthy country I have ever lived in. During the present year, I have scarcely heard of a case of fever in the whole country. The timber of Oregon is indeed most superior, and constitutes a large portion of its wealth; and we have not only the tallest, finest timber in the world, but we have every where water power to any desirable extent, suitable for propelling all kinds of machinery.

The soil of this country is most excellent, and can be prepared and cultivated with less labor than that of any other country. Wheat is the great staple of the world; and as a wheat-growing country, this ranks in the very first class. The crop is not only of the *best quality, but is always large; and there is no such occurrence as a failure of the wheat crop.* For potatoes, melons, turnips, and garden vegetables generally, our soil is superior. Indian corn does not succeed well, and in fact we have no use for it, as our cattle live all the year upon the natural pastures of the country. Since I have been here, I have been myself engaged in farming occupations, and I have been astonished at the very small amount of labor required to cultivate a farm. Potatoes are planted, and nothing more is done to them until they are ready for digging; when they are not dug, but generally turned up with the plough. Peas are sown broad cast, like wheat, and are neither staked nor cultivated, and produce in great abundance. Ploughing is done here from the month of September until July, and wheat is sown from October to May; and potatoes are planted in March, April, and May. A team of two horses, with a very light, easy plough, can break prairie land; but a team of two yoke of oxen is most generally used. I am informed that timothy, clover, and blue-grass all grow well in the soil of Oregon.

For pasturage this country is pre eminent. Horses, cattle, and sheep require neither feed nor shelter, and keep fat all the year round. Hogs are raised here with partial feeding, and pork is generally fattened upon wheat, and finer pork I have never seen anywhere.

I omitted to mention in its appropriate place that our harvesting commences about the 20th of July, and continues throughout the month of August; and during the present year we had no rain from about the 1st July to the 15th October, so that we had the finest weather for saving our crops imaginable.

One thing that strikes the beholder of this country with greatest force, is the unsurpassable beauty of its scenery. We have snow-clad mountains, beautiful valleys, pure, rapid streams running over pebbly beds, with numerous cascades and waterfalls, and trees of superior grandeur and beauty.

The government of Oregon has grown up from necessity; and perhaps no new organization has been adopted and sustained with so much unanimity and good order. Every circumstance has tended to strengthen it. I attended the last term of the circuit courts in most of the counties, and I found great respect shown to judicial authority every where; and did not see a *solitary drunken juryman, or witness, or spectator.* So much industry, good order, and sobriety, I have never observed in any community. Our population seem to be exceedingly enterprising, and are making rapid progress to comfort and wealth. As yet, we have had no murders, no robberies, thefts, or felonies of any kind, except one assault with intent to kill.

Our grand juries have exhibited very laudable assiduity in discharging their duties, and criminals here will meet with certain and prompt punishment.

Nature has displayed here her most magnificent powers, and our country has its full share of natural advantages. Our prospects are most brilliant. If we can keep out intoxication, (*and we will do it,*) half a century will not roll away before there will exist in Oregon one of the most industrious, virtuous, free, and commercial nations in the world.

I have already protracted this communication beyond its appropriate length, and will now close it by subscribing myself,

Yours, &c.

PETER H. BURNETT.

DR. E. WHITE.

No. 83 *c*.

VANCOUVER, *March* 18, 1845.

GENTLEMEN: I am sorry to inform you that Mr. Williamson is surveying a piece of land occupied by the Hudson's Bay Company, alongside of this establishment, with a view of taking it as a claim; and as he is an American citizen, I feel bound, as a matter of courtesy, to make the same known to you, trusting that you will feel justified in taking measures to have him removed from the Hudson's Bay Company's premises, in order that the unanimity now happily subsisting between the American citizens and British subjects residing in this country may not be disturbed or interrupted. I beg to enclose you a copy of an address to the citizens of Oregon, which will explain to you our situation, and the course we are bound to pursue in the event of your declining to interfere.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient humble servant,

J. McLAUGHLIN.

WILLIAM BAILEY,
OSBORNE RUSSELL,
P. G. STEWART, Esqs.,
Executive Committee of Oregon.

No. 83 *d*.

OREGON CITY, *March* 21, 1845.

SIR: We beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letters—one dated 11th of March, and the other 12th of March—accompanied with an address to the citizens of Oregon.

We regret to hear that unwarranted liberties have been taken by an American citizen upon the Hudson's Bay Company's premises, and it affords us great pleasure to learn that the offender, after due reflection, desisted from the insolent and rash measure.

As American citizens, we beg leave to offer you and your much esteemed colleague our most grateful thanks for the kind and candid manner in which you have treated this matter, as we are aware that an infringement on the rights of the Hudson's Bay Company in this country, by an American

citizen, is a breach of the laws of the United States, by setting at naught her most solemn treaties with Great Britain.

As representatives of the citizens of Oregon, we beg your acceptance of our sincere acknowledgments of the obligations we are under to yourself and your honorable associate for the high regard you have manifested for the authorities of our provisional government, and the special anxiety you have ever shown for our peace and prosperity; and we assure you that we consider ourselves in duty bound to use every exertion in our power to put down every cause of disturbance, as well as to promote the amicable intercourse and kind feelings hitherto existing between ourselves and the gentlemen of the Hudson's Bay Company, until the United States shall extend their jurisdiction over us, and our authority cease to exist.

We have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient servants,

OSBORNE RUSSELL,
P. G. STEWART,
Executive Committee of Oregon.

JOHN MCLAUGHLIN, Esq.

No. 83 *e.*

OREGON, WILLAMETTE,
April 4, 1845.

SIR: I have the honor and happiness of informing you, and through you, if it be your pleasure, the American public, that measures have been taken by myself and the citizens of this colony to open a wagon route through from the upper part of this valley, the present season, directly to Fort Hall, or Green river; the pilot returning and escorting the emigrants through this much shorter, easier, and every way more advantageous route. The emigrants thereby being enabled to bring with them their herds, wagons, and all their effects at once directly into the heart of the Willamette valley; saving thereby an immense amount of toil, hardship, and suffering, saying nothing of the necessary destruction and increased danger of the other route.

Your humble and obedient servant,

E. WHITE, *Sub-agent.*

The messenger is leaving.